

Typography, My Way

Distraction the essence of all things good.

I tie my arms upon you like a bow,
musing over inadequacies,
fitting parallels and the tips of ruling pens
into some shocked perspective.

It is vast at my wingtips.

The room so angular, so pointed and particular,
I spy myself in pairs of pupils — such a face.

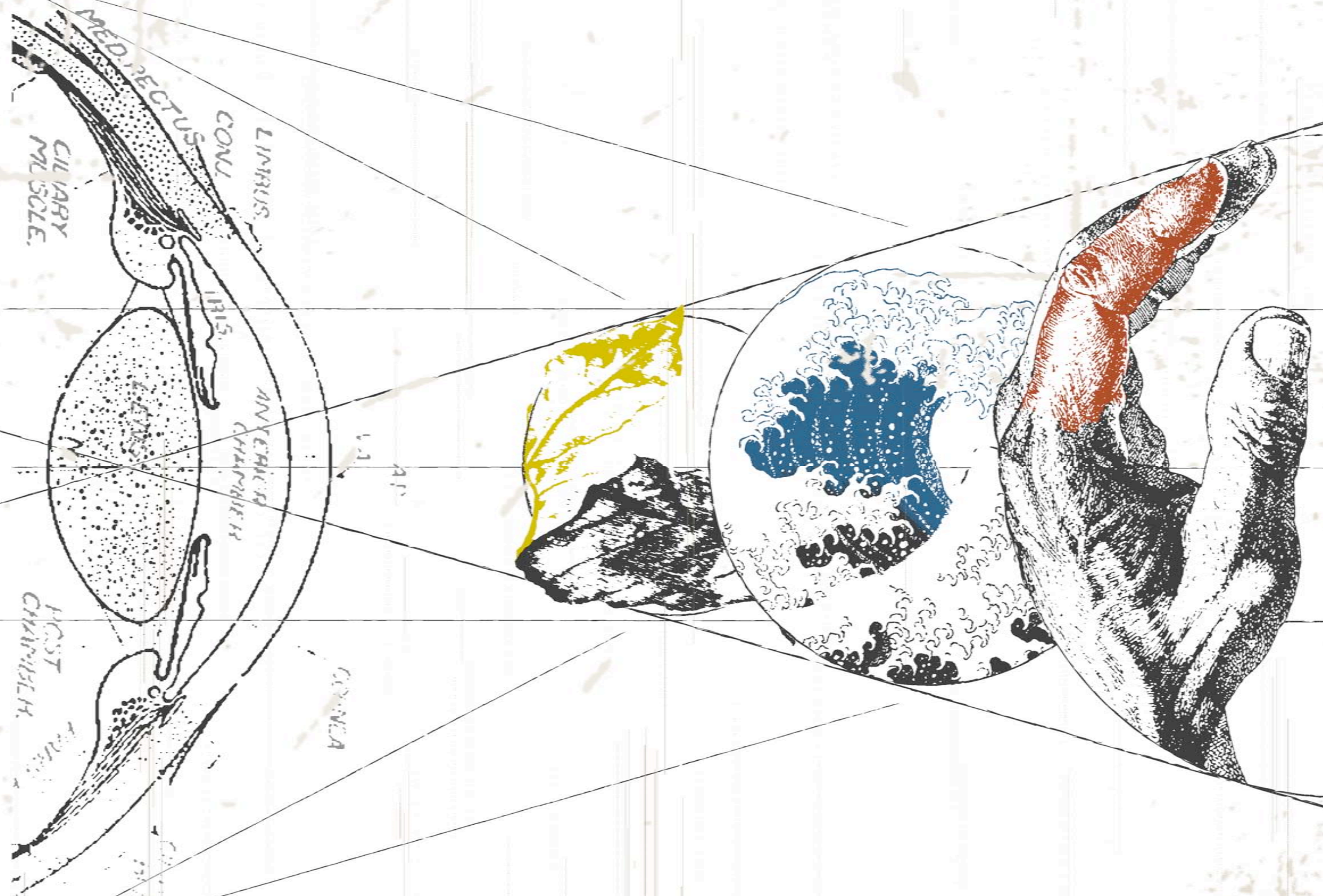
Before they invented compasses,
how were the circles born?
On sea foam like fair Aphrodite,
or through the grasping of determined fingers,
curling in as leaves?

No matter

You hug me, all words gone,
and there is nothing left for letterforms to say.
the jointed slurs of speech bubble around us,
beautiful without line, unknown to ink or rule or pen

perfect in their clarity

Anonymous





seeing hearing, feeling

Colophon The poem *Typography, My Way* was written in 1991 by a student of typography at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA. Transcribed by the teacher Pino Trogu and rediscovered in 2005 in San Francisco. It was first published by Jack W. Stauffacher of *The Greenwood Press*, as part of a limited edition boxed set of poetry entitled *Verse into TYPE*, the APHA Poetry Portfolio. American Printing History Association, 2006.

This 4-page broadside was designed and produced by Mayumi Honda, as part of *DSGD 186*, Digital Applications Methodology, a graphic design class taught in the fall of 2006. School of Art and Design, San Jose State University, California, USA. According to Honda's interpretation, the poem describes typography through two human

senses, seeing and hearing. And she visualizes the three significant scenes of the poem with the two human senses: the angular letters through the writer's eyes, the circular forms of the nature through the antiquity's eye, and the letters merging into the air and becoming the invisible sounds.

Additional text: Mayumi Honda
Typefaces: Roman Antique
Illustrations: Anatomy of the eye and orbit
An Atlas of Anatomy for Artists
Mayumi Honda
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