Elana Schlenker

Elana Schlenker is a Brooklyn-based graphic designer and art director with a dirty secret. Described as "a journal of typographic smut," her magazine Gratuitous Type gives free rein to her lusty appreciation for fonts of all shapes and sizes. Deliberately riffing on some of the conventions of published pornography it's a thing of unashamed design geekery, and the third issue was the most impressive yet. Based around the theme of colour, the content was exceptional and from the die-cut wraparound to the changing paper stocks there were lots of nice design flourishes. Elana keeps a great blog of the same name too, for more regular type pervery.

(Photographs of Gratuitous Type by Ross Mantle) elanaschlenker.com







Edouard Baribeaud

There are some publishers whose strike rate is so remarkable that every time one of their titles arrives in the studio, everyone stops what they're doing to take a look. So it is with Nieves, the Swiss imprint whose impeccable taste and unerring sense of how best to tell almost any story raises their wares well above the norm. The zine that really rocked our collective world this year was Edouard Baribeaud's Au Pavillion des Lauriers, described as "the enchainment of science fiction, supernatural effects, magical oriental rituals and mythological figures." Edouard's exquisite draughtsmanship is the real star of this beguiling risograph, a swirling world of reds and blues that is actually a prelude to a much bigger book.

Above: Thunderstruck; Next page: Life on Mars edbaribeaud.com/de

