Grifo

Grifo is an economic text face designed for magazines. it's made to save space in long texts and in big, tightly set headlines. The family has three optical sizes: *S*, for text; *M*, for titles and *L* for big headlines. Each of these have five weights from Light to Black, with matching italics.

Grifo's design draws on the extreme hight stroke contrast of the neoclassic types but has bracketed serifs and sharp triangular terminals. Indeed, sharp spikes and hooks are one of grifo's traits, specially in the *L* size. It's full of talon shapes, like the c, e, the bottom curve of the t, or most obviously, commas and quotes. One other distinguishing quality is the prominently rational approach of the shapes, with very hard lines, as if the letters were cut with a scalpel. Vertical strokes all end with abrupt horizontal cuts and the baseline serifs of the letters a, d and u where cut off, to give the alphabet a harder and simplified edge, contributing also to save space.

Grifo is the portuguese word for Griffin, the sharp-clawed, half-lion, half-eagle, mythological creature.

Three Optical Sizes × Five Weights

Grifo L
Extreme high-contrast display face for the larger sizes

Black *Italic*
Bold *Italic*
Medium *Italic*
Regular *Italic*
Light *Italic*

Grifo M
Titling subfamily

Black *Italic*
Bold *Italic*
Medium *Italic*
Regular *Italic*
Light *Italic*

Grifo S
Body text subfamily

Black *Italic*
Bold *Italic*
Medium *Italic*
Regular *Italic*
Light *Italic*

Taller ascender and deeper descenders

Higher stroke contrast

Wider letters and more letterspacing

Andam Grifos pelos Bosques

Starting last spring mysterious & apparently connected events allegedly took place in different locations in the Beiras region.

GRIFFINS

All happened in the woods. Several locals were abducted, some claimed a kind of mystical experience, and a few of the victims even showed signs of physical violence. Some had scratches on them that appeared to have been made by some sort of big animal with sharp claws. None of them could say if the perpetrator was a man, a woman or a beast. Popular claims "Andam Grifos nos Bosques" (there are griffins in the woods) soon made headlines across national media, and to this day the case is still being investigated by the authorities. Many of the victims claim the perpetrator was everything but human, and that they were lucky to have survived. Others say

Grifo M Medium, 26 pt

A mysterious plot with hard contours

Grifo S Regular, 10.5 pt

Who doesn't remember the 2008 suspense surrealist movie Uppercase and Lowercase Clock? The film featured two characters that after meeting at a small atrium start regurgitating letters, that are dropped alive on the floor as they look at each other straight in the eyes. Director Rui Abreu refrained from explaining his intention at the time, but the movie was praised and acclaimed almost unanimously by a section of the critics that are usually turned on by this kind of cinematic statement.

Grifo S Bold, 12.2 pt

Breathtaking characters

Uppercase and Lowercase took no small part in the success of this now considered, by some, a master piece of the typographic-stop-motion movie genre. Their performance was deemed *truly amazing* by the Vigário Times, and *breathtaking* by Mundo Errático. The two actors enjoyed great success and admiration in several parts of the world. Director Abreu, perhaps influenced by the huge success of the two characters, even included a picture of Lowercase's face in his 2001 remake of the 2008 classic One Thousand Words.

Grifo S Italic, 10.5 pt

World Coming down

But has we have seen countless times over, the higher they rise, the harder they fall. Both Uppercase and Lowercase are now allegedly in deep trouble, and have *fell on black days* accounting to Mundo Errático. Lowercase clock is considered missing by the authorities, two years after his decision of living *among the trees* near Caniveta lake in Beja. Uppercase in turn, has fallen into a deep drug addiction.
Relations between the two started getting sour, and several hostile remarks were thrown at each other publicly in the press. "They just couldn't handle fame and glory" said k, one of the characters that were spit out by Lowercase in the 2008 movie. Lowercase sunk deep in his already noticeable transcendentalist tendencies, and went on to pursue an *uncompromised life away from madness and ugliness*, as he told us in an interview last August. After several attempts from friends to deter him from his radical thinking, Lowercase packed a suitcase with just two pairs of shoes and golden make-up and haeded to Beja. He was last seen by the side Caniveta lake. *I saw him spitting question marks, but didn't want to intrude on him*, says a cattle keeper in a television interview.

History of drug abuse and heavy drinking

Uppercase, had a long history with alcohol and heavy drugs. For the shooting of Uppercase and lowercase Clock, he had returned from an apparently successful rehab program, but during the production of a new film he started consuming again. Hamburgevons the labor union representing actors and characters of typographic movies said in a press conference, *his role in Abreu's movie was too demanding for him as an actor*. When we tried to ask Uppercase about his struggle with his addiction at RT studios, he told us *I gave everything I knew to my character, I'm empty now*.
Some blame director Rui Abreu for the quick decline of the two promising actores others say *they always were misfits anyway*.

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6	7	8	9	€	$	¢	£	ƒ	¥	#	¼	½	¾	%	‰	¤	0	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	€	$	¢	£	ƒ	¥	0	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	/	0	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	/	\	|	¦	<	≤	≥	>	+	−	±
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a d u

Stylistic set 1

a d u

p

Stylistic set 2

p

(H){}[]-——‹›«»

Uppercase forms

(H){}[]-——‹›«»

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Old-style numbers

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Tabular numbers

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Superscript and subscript numbers

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Numerators and denominators

0 1 2 3 4 / 5 6 7 8 9

1/2 2/3 12/28 ...

Self-building fractions

1/2 2/3 12/28 ...

UPPERCASE and Lowercase, *the Stars and their Whole Story*

Grifo

Typeface & specimen designed by Rui Abreu