

4x4 

EXHI

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*a call for unintimidating art*

As calligraphers, we toil over grand works. In pursuit of perfection, our labour is often pleasurable: delicately handling calf skin, breathing gently on gold leaf, sometimes even grinding our own pigments to achieve something truly magnificent and fine.

Frankly, it's a little overwhelming. Even the most spontaneous works happen after immense preparation. There's no "undo" for calligraphers: the pressure to get it "right" leaves less room for error and risk, essential components for making progress and exploring our own styles. And our time is so precious we hate to waste it on creative experiments.

But limitations often inspire creativity, and working in a small 4"x4" square is a prime example. We all have some small scraps of paper to use up, some leftover inks from previous projects, or some technique we've always wanted to try. With this exhibit, we're encouraging play, risk and reward. The format is meant to be unintimidating and approachable — both for artists to create and viewers to appreciate. At heart, art is meant to be fun!

*With special thanks to Sven Bonnicksen for making the display panel, Susan Cole for coordinating the previous exhibit, and everyone who makes AOCC happen!*