

A Very Incomplete List of Printmakers You Should Know

Xu Bing
William Blake
Judith Brodsky
Elizabeth Catlett
Hiroshige
Barbara Jones-Hogu
Corita Kent
Kathe Kollwitz
Hung Liu
Nicola Lopez
Aldus Manutius
Josh MacPhee
Juan Pablos
Jose Guadalupe Posada
Kiki Smith

Finally, remember:



Prints are made with ink—not paint!

What is printmaking?

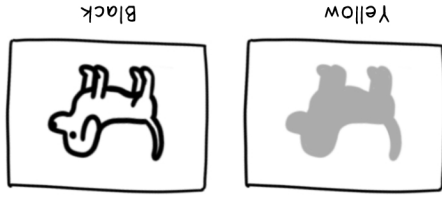
A GUIDE TO PRINTS AND PRINTING CONVENTIONS



by Katie Garth



Multiple plates or blocks are often used to create a single print, requiring images to be constructed in layers. These layers are usually separated by color.

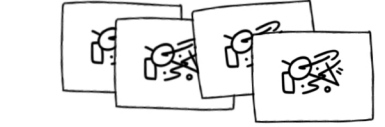
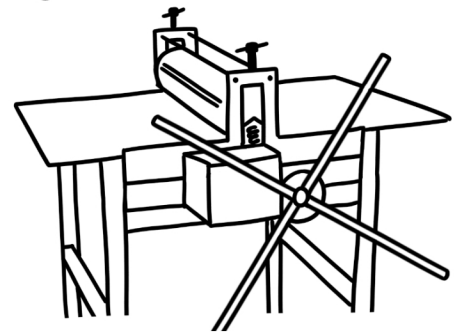


Printmaking is a series of artistic processes in which an image is transferred to another surface.

Prints are made using three components:

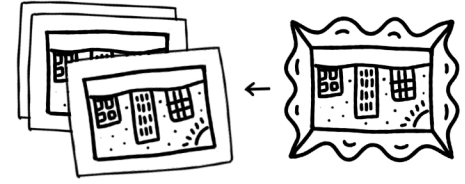
- ① a MATRIX, which holds the image;
- ② a SUBSTRATE, to which the image is transferred; and
- ③ the PRESSURE to make it happen.

- ① Wood block, copper or zinc plate, limestone, or mesh screen, often
- ② Paper, fabric, wood, glass...more!
- ③ A printing press or hand pressure



Part of the magic of printmaking is that it can be used to create many copies of the same image.

While many prints are artworks in their own right, some artists create prints based on pre-existing paintings or other singular works. These prints are known as reproductions.



The second number represents the total number of copies in the edition. The first number identifies the unique print within that range, anywhere from 1 to the edition size—in this case, 10. This number does not determine value or print quality, as every print in an edition should be identical.

1 / 10

An EDITION is a complete set of prints created from the same matrix. Editioned prints are often signed with two numbers separated by a stroke, e.g.

Historically, printers destroyed matrices upon project completion to ensure no further copies could be produced. This became known as a limited edition.