

Newsletter No 5/November 2006 – NON-TOXIC INTAGLIO

Dear Printmakers,

Since I published my last newsletter in Mai 2006 a lot of new things happened.

1) New Homepage

I have now updated my homepage with a new design that should make it easier to navigate around through the different subjects – on the main page you can select the Danish, English or Spanish version – you are invited to have a look – <http://www.artbag.dk/www-grafisk-eksperimentarium-dk/modelNy4.html?sprog=uk>

2) AKUA waterbased intaglio colors

Throughout this year I have been testing all the AKUA water based intaglio colours with big success, but it is essential to work with them in the right way: *always use dampened paper (a little less dampened as with the traditional oil based colours), always use a very soft tarlatan for wiping and always use a hard felt on the etching press when printing the plate.* – **I have all colours in stock** see <http://www.artbag.dk/www-grafisk-eksperimentarium-dk/modelNy4.html?sprog=uk>

3) Degreasing the plates

Forget everything about chalk powder, CPS, detergents etc – simply use 5 drops of soya sauce (the cheapest from the supermarket) – degrease the plate with soya and a sponge, rinse the plate under running water and dry it – you will be surprised.

4) New roll on soft ground for draw through soft ground

With the traditional non-toxic roll on soft ground where we used Graph Chemical Crimson Red and a binder many printmakers who are doing draw through (paper) soft grounds often had the problem that this etching ground dries to fast. My god friend and professor at the Academy of Fine Arts in Granada, Juan Carlos Ramon Guadix, has developed a completely non-toxic soft ground for this technique that never dries. You can easily mix it yourself:

150 g bee wax

75 g resin colofonium (used for tradicional aquatint)

500 g black lithographic ink

150 g lard

Apply it in a thin covering layer with a roller on a hotplate. It stays soft and can be worked in immediate and up to 1 week. Etch in 20 Beaumé Ferric Chloride and strip the etching ground with vegetable salad oil and degrease the plate with soya.

5a) UV lamp

The perfectly working UV-lamp from Philips is not produced anymore – I have tried different other possibilities and I found the answer with another lamp from Osram (300 watt) that is cheaper and does not require a transformer – simply plug it in the 220 volt socket. I have it in stock - see <http://www.artbag.dk/www-grafisk-eksperimentarium-dk/modelNy4.html?sprog=uk>

5b) UV Exposure Unit

Last year I produced a “ready to plug in” exposure unit for mounting on top of the exposure cabinet. It was build for the old Philips UV-lamp and does not work for the new OSRAM lamp since the

bulb gets far warmer. I have therefore constructed a new model with the new lamp ready to plug in. Will be published on my web-site soon.

5c) Vacuum Pump for the Vacuum Frame

A cheap silent solution to be used as vacuum pump for the vacuum frame is a compressor from an old worn out refrigerator – even though the refrigerator does not work anymore, the compressor always works.

6) Workshops

I held two workshops in my new studio in Capileira in Andalucía in Spain. They were both a big success and the studio works perfectly for all techniques in Non-Toxic Intaglio. The participants were Spanish, Mexicans, Americans, Danish, Dutch, Belch, Norwegians and Germans. In the beautifully situated studio I intend to make future international workshops in spring, summer and autumn every year. In order to be able to make in-depth going workshops I decided a maximum of 8 professional printmakers in each workshop. You are welcome to send an e-mail if you are interested and note which period you prefer as well as the language you prefer. At the moment I have decided the dates I will then inform you as the first about actual dates etc. – see <http://www.artbag.dk/www-grafisk-eksperimentarium-dk/modelNy4.html?sprog=uk>

7) New edition of the “Handbook of Non-Toxic Intaglio”

My “Handbook of Non-Toxic Intaglio” is almost sold out and at the moment I am working hard on the next edition. The layout will be changed a little so that it fits together with Flemish/Dutch and coming French version of the book which were designed by the belch publisher Filip Le Roy. The contents will be updated, some chapters rewritten and finally new techniques will get new chapters.

How you can get an idea of in the preface to the new book – see preface 2nd edition
If you will like to see the reviews of the 1st edition – look here

The book will be published in the beginning of 2007 – if you order now you will get it with 20% discount when it has been published.

8) DVD or Video – Non-Toxic Intaglio Step by Step with booklet.

The DVD or Video visualises all processes in non-toxic intaglio (see detail on <http://www.artbag.dk/www-grafisk-eksperimentarium-dk/modelNy4.html?sprog=uk>) has now been reprinted in a 2nd impression.

Normal price were euro 30 - now for sale for Euro 18 including shipping.

I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Yours sincerely
Henrik Boegh