

# CONTENTS

PREFACE . . . . .	7
-------------------	---

## **PHOTOGRAVURE**

Photogravure . . . . .	12
The photopolymer plate . . . . .	12
The photogravure . . . . .	12
The work process in short . . . . .	14
Avoid open bites . . . . .	16
Double exposure of the plate. . . . .	17
Causes of open bites. . . . .	18
The importance of the exposure time . . . . .	19
Single exposure of the plate . . . . .	19
The perfect positive for photogravure . . . . .	20
The positive transparency . . . . .	21
The printer . . . . .	21

## **THE WORK PROCESS: PHASE I – THE DIGITAL POSITIVE**

Step 1: Convert the image to black-and-white . . . . .	24
Step 2: Adjust the bits depth . . . . .	25
Step 3: Adjust the tonal range – set the black and the white point . . . . .	26
Step 4: Your personal corrections . . . . .	27
Step 5: Complete and save the file as a master image . . . . .	27
Step 6: Fine-tune the master image for the UV exposure . . . . .	28
Step 7: Print the positive image on transparency film . . . . .	30

## **UV EXPOSURE**

UV light sources . . . . .	34
Calibration of the UV exposure for the technical gear and materials. . . . .	36
Safety light . . . . .	37

<b>THE WORK PROCESS: PHASE II – THE ANALOGUE PRINT</b>	
Step 1 : Cut and trim the plate . . . . .	40
Step 2 : Remove metal burrs and round the corners . . . . .	40
Step 3a : Expose the aquatint screen to the UV light . . . . .	42
Step 3b : Etch the aquatint grains. . . . .	42
Step 3c : Harden the photopolymer plate . . . . .	44
Step 3d : Ink up and print the aquatint scale . . . . .	44
Step 4a : Expose the positive to the UV light . . . . .	46
Step 4b : Etch the positive . . . . .	47
Step 4c : Harden the photopolymer plate . . . . .	48
Step 4d : Ink up and print the positive image. . . . .	48
Step 5 : The final calibration of the photogravure. . . . .	50
<b>DUOTONE – A DIFFERENT EXPRESSION . . . . .</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>DIRECT TO PLATE (DtP) – AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD</b>	
The work process with DtP. . . . .	58
<b>PHOTOPOLYMER GRAVURE – THE HANDMADE POSITIVE</b>	
Draw and wash media . . . . .	64
Intaglio versus relief . . . . .	72
Relief . . . . .	74
<b>APPENDIX I – INSTALLING THE RIP-SOFTWARE FOR DtP – DIRECT TO PLATE</b>	
Installation of QTR for Windows and Mac . . . . .	78
<b>APPENDIX II – THE PRINTING PROCES</b>	
Preparing the printing paper – Preparing the etching ink – Oil based etching ink – Soy based etching Ink – Inking the plate – Wiping the plate – Printing the plate – Finishing Treatment . . . . .	82
<b>MATERIALS AND TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT. . . . .</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>SAFETY . . . . .</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>ABOUT THE AUTHOR . . . . .</b>	<b>94</b>