

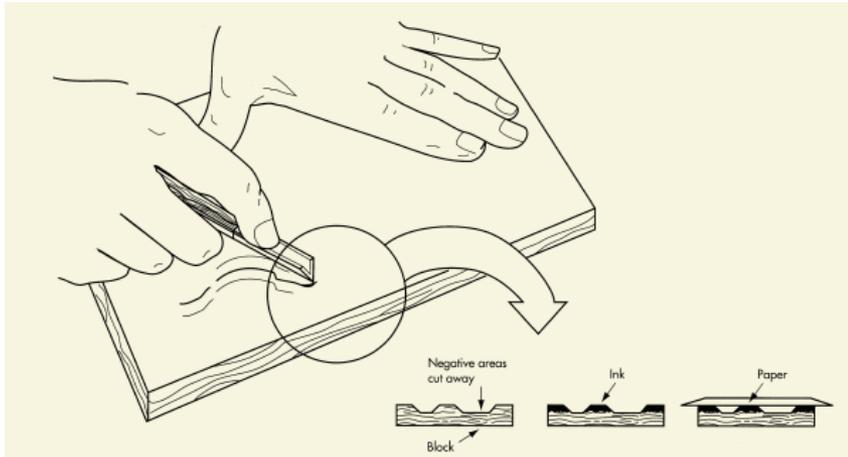
Chapter 6

Printmaking

The modern concept of art appreciation would not be possible without the printing press, which was invented in the 1450s. In the fine arts, prints refer to multiple impressions made directly from a block, plate, stone, or screen created by an artist.

Relief Printmaking

The Woodcut



- The first form of printmaking in the west was the woodcut print
- It is made by carving directly into a smooth piece of wood and removing what is not part of the image

The term relief refers to any printmaking process in which the image to be printed is raised off the background in reverse. An example would be a rubber stamp with an ink pad.



Relief Printmaking

The Woodcut



- The first form of printmaking in the west was the woodcut print
- Durer was the first Renaissance artist to show that prints could be the equal of paintings
- His trips to Italy influenced him to create forceful and imaginative compositions like the Italian Renaissance artists

The Four Horsemen, from the Apocalypse series. Albrecht Durer, c. 1498.

Inside Albrecht's Studio - Woodcut

Relief Printmaking

The Woodcut

- Woodcuts with fine details and elaborate design were familiar in Asia centuries before Durer's landmark work (previous slide)
- Paper was invented in China approximately 1000 years before appearing in the West
- In Japan, in the 18-19th century, teams of artisans created prints of great beauty and complexity
- In a print like this each color is the product of a different carved block – each color must line up correctly (known as proper *registration*)



Woodcut Printing in Japan

*Suzuka Pass between Sakanoshita and
Tsuchiyame, 1852-1857.*
Color woodcut.



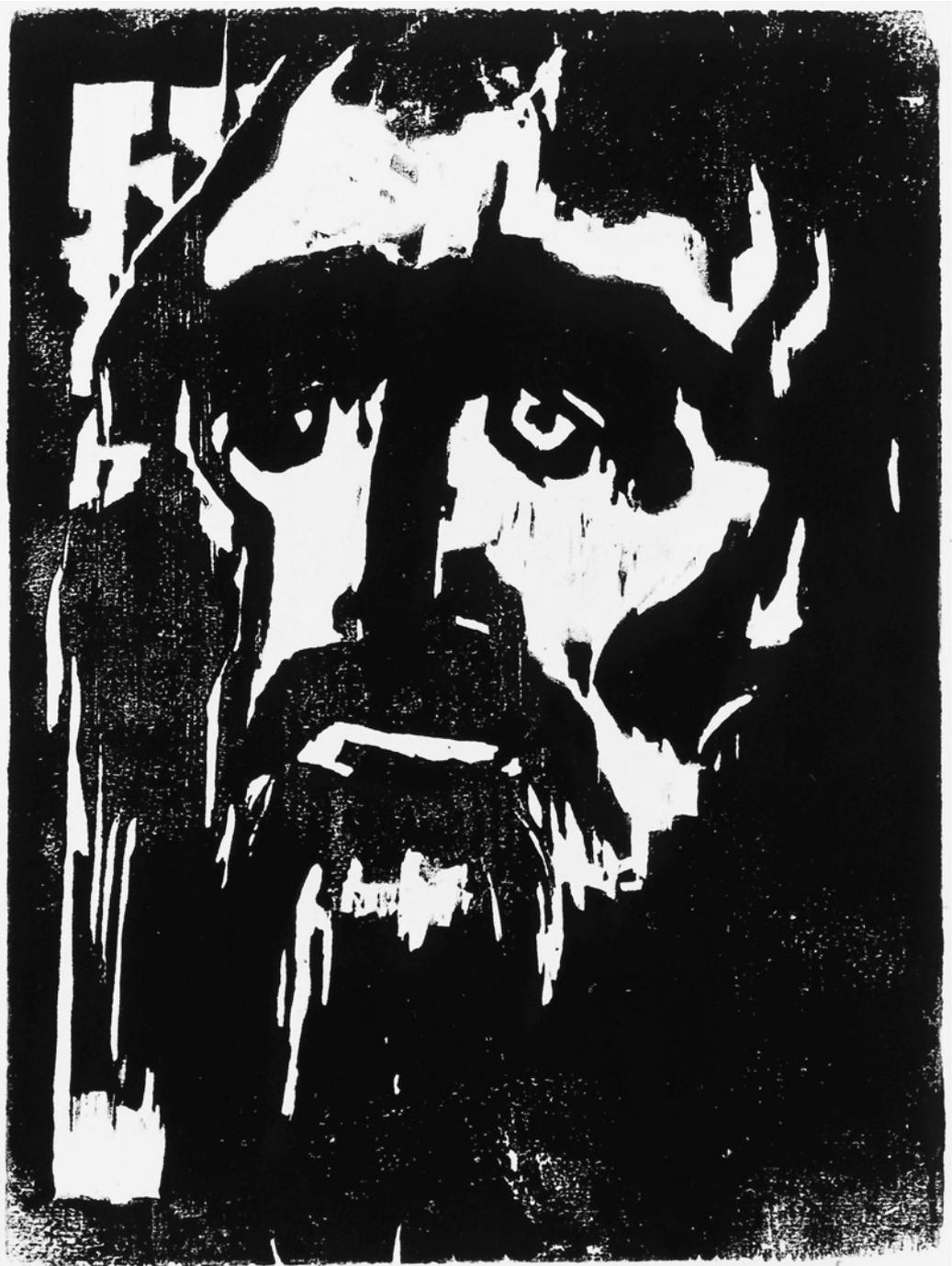
Woodcut: Utamaro's Studio



Utamaro's Studio. The three primary steps in producing a print from drawing to glazing. Kitagawa Utamaro. 1790.

The Woodcut

Prophet. Emil Nolde, 1912. Woodcut.



Emil Nolde

The Woodcut



Using a handheld gouger to cut a woodcut design into Japanese plywood. The design has been sketched in chalk on a painted face of the plywood.

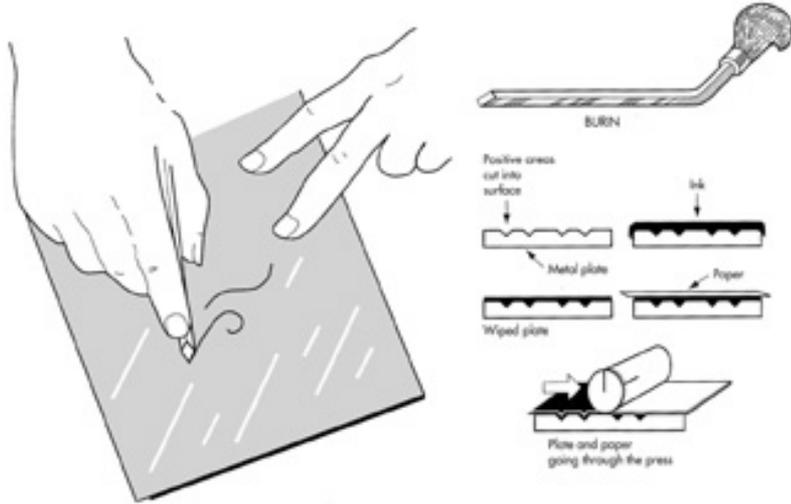
Wood Engraving



Noon-Day Rest in Marble Canyon. J. W. Powell, 1875. Wood engraving from a sketch.

Intaglio Printmaking

Metal Engraving



- The opposite of relief printmaking – the negative (removed) areas print
- Lines are cut into metal plates using sharp tools or acids
- A piece of moistened paper is placed over the plate and they are run through a press
- The paper is forced into the ink-filled grooves
- The lines in an intaglio (etching) print are raised

LinoCut

A **linocut** is similar to a woodcut, except the block is made of **linoleum** instead of wood.

Linoleum is easier to cut but wears down more quickly under pressure, so the editions are more limited.

Different blocks are created for each of the colors, then aligned in registration. *Tube Train* is made up of four separate linoleum blocks.

The Tube Train.
Cyril E. Power, 1934.
Color linocut



Intaglio Printmaking Metal Engraving

- Engraving is the oldest form of intaglio – developed in the 1400's when paper became more easily available in Europe
- Schongauer shows the minute detail possible with this medium



Intaglio Printmaking Metal Engraving

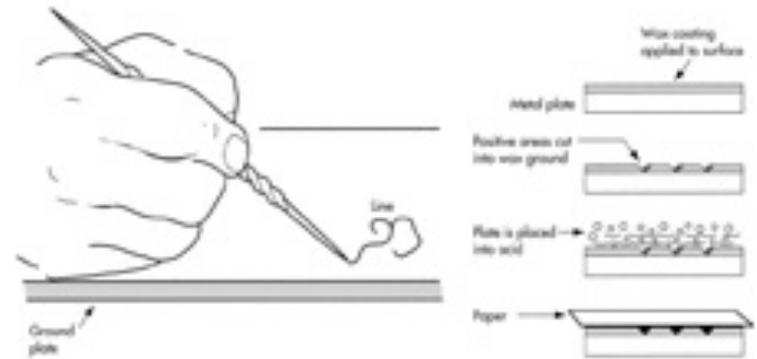
- Some artists used engravings to disseminate their ideas to a wider public
- **Hogarth** creates this image as a warning against drinking gin



Intaglio Printmaking

Etching

- An **intaglio** process using **acids** instead of metal tools to cut the metal plate after a wax coat is applied
- It is then put into an **acid bath** which bites into the metal where the wax ground was removed **forming lines**
- Allows for more flowing, spontaneous lines



Intaglio Printmaking Etching

- An enormous variety of lines and tones are possible as the plate is etched in stages

*The Angel Appearing to the
Shepherds.*
Rembrandt van Rijn, 1634.



Intaglio Printmaking

Today intaglio engraving is largely used for paper or plastic currency, banknotes, passports and occasionally for high-value postage stamps.

- * Plates are usually made from copper or zinc
- * Formerly used extensively for high-quality magazines, fabrics and wallpapers
- * Common uses still include some **postage stamps** and **paper currency**, at one time used for all mass-printed materials including **banknotes, stock certificates, newspapers**, etc.



Drypoint

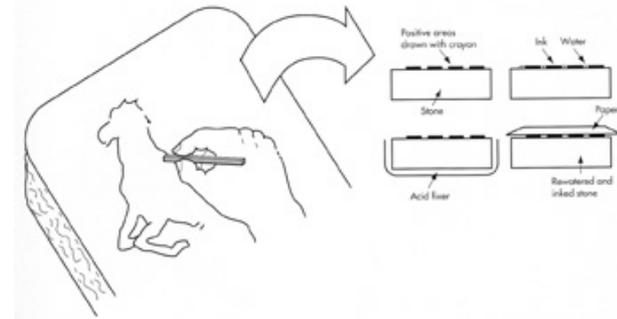


Mary Cassatt
& friend J. Cassatt

The Map. Mary Cassatt, 1890. Drypoint.

Printmaking: Lithography

- Images are drawn or painted directly on a flat stone or plate with waxy crayons, or a greasy liquid called *tusche*
- The lithographic stone or plate is then treated with a chemical so that only the greasy areas will attract ink
- Lithography was invented as a commercial process to reproduce sheets of music cheaply



Printmaking Lithography

- **Toulouse-Lautrec** raised color lithography to the status of **fine art**

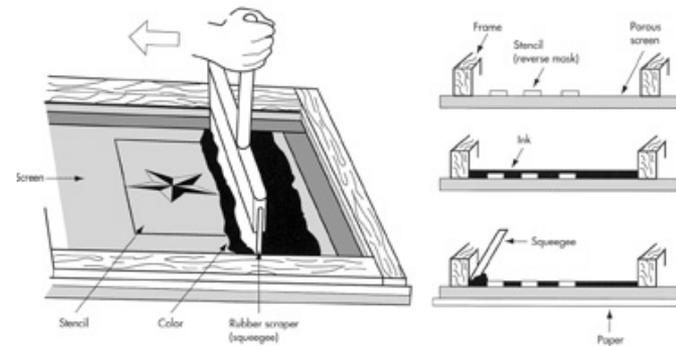
Divan Japonais, poster for a Parisian music hall.

Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, 1892.
Color lithograph.



Printmaking Silkscreen

- Silkscreen printing (or *serigraphy*) is one of the newer printmaking media, developed for industrial printing of patterns on **fabrics**
- It is an inexpensive method for printing large editions and is often used for **posters** and **T-shirts**
- A stencil is attached to a screen of silk stretched over a frame – ink is pressed through the open areas
- Photographic sources can be used as in this work by Barbara Kruger

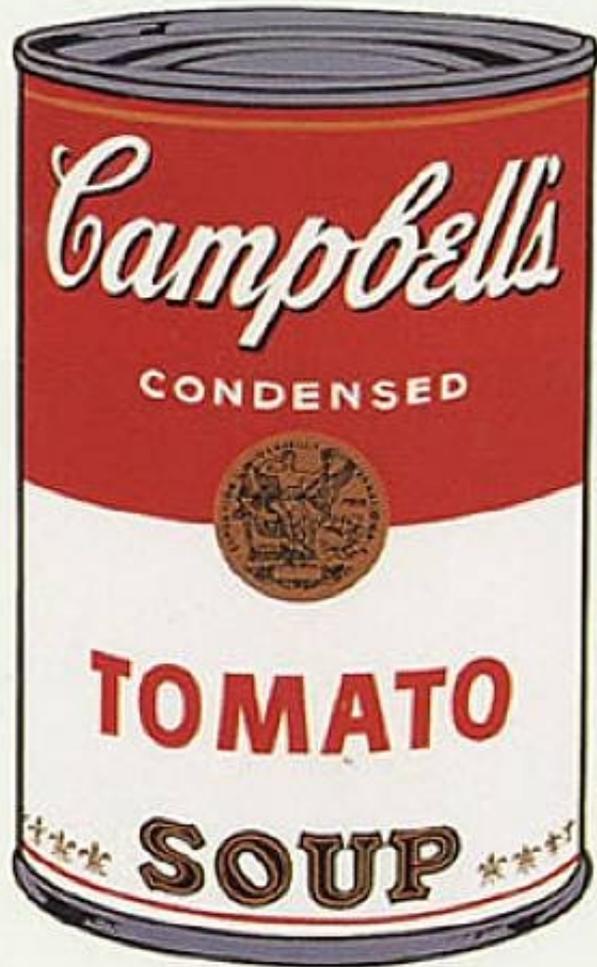


Lithography: Communicate current events.



Rue Transnonain. Honoré Daumier, April 15, 1834. Lithograph.

Silkscreen ink on canvas



With Campbell's Soup Can (Tomato) **Andy Warhol** takes as his subject a ubiquitous staple food found in millions of American homes and turns it into **high art**.

Andy Warhol's Campbell's Soup Cans transformed him into an overnight sensation when they were first exhibited in Los Angeles in 1962. It was his first one-person exhibition organized by Irving Blum, the legendary and visionary director of the Ferus Gallery.

The exhibition featured thirty-two "portraits" of soup cans, each identical except for the flavor inscribed on their labels. These revolutionary paintings were displayed on a small narrow shelf that ran along the wall of the gallery in a way that suggested not only a gallery rail but also the long shelves in a grocery store.

With these works, Warhol took on the tradition of still life painting, declaring a familiar household brand of packaged food a legitimate subject in the age of Post-War economic recovery.

Thus began Pop art.

Printmaking

Unique Prints

- A ***monotype*** is produced by applying ink or paint directly to a metal plate and then running it with paper through a press
- Creates a single print
- It allows for a more spontaneous approach
- Here Degas adds pastel after pulling the print

