

# MONOTYPE



## CREATEX™ MONOTYPE COLORS USER GUIDE & COLOR CHART

Waterbased / Hand or Press Transfer

### COLOR CHART



CREATEX™ East Granby, CT 06026



## Waterbased Monotypes with CREATEX™

A monotype is a single print created by transferring to paper an image that has been painted on a plate made of metal, glass, Plexiglas, etc. Transfer is accomplished by either hand rubbing or by running the plate through an etching or lithography press. The resulting print has painterly textures and surface effects that cannot be obtained by working directly on paper.

### MATERIALS

- 1) *Printing surface*—Use a flat non-absorbent surface such as a sheet of Plexiglas (1/8" to 3/32") or frosted polyester (5 to 30 mil).
- 2) *Paper*—Use absorbent, unsized or lightly sized papers such as Arch 88, BFK Rives, Japanese papers or handmade papers without sizing.
- 3) *CreateX Monotype Colors and Monotype Base.*
- 4) *Tools*—paintbrushes, color shapers, foam or soft rubber brayers, Q-Tips.
- 5) *Blotter paper and newsprint.*
- 6) *Drawing board or other flat surface for flattening print.*
- 7) *Soaking tray for paper and spray mist bottle.*

### PAINTING THE IMAGE

- 1) Clean plate with a washcloth and detergent to remove residual oils and paint.
- 2) Apply color directly to the plate using a brush, sponge, brayer, etc. Avoid heavy impasto strokes and buildup of paint which can spread during printing. This also minimizes problems such as paint not fully transferring during printing.
- 3) Allow paint to thoroughly air dry.

### WETTING THE PAPER

**For unsized paper**—(e.g. Arch 88) Prior to painting your image, thoroughly wet the paper by spray misting it with water until it is evenly damp. Cover the paper with a sheet of plastic and allow it to sit while you apply color to the plate. When the paint is thoroughly dry on the plate, remove excess moisture from the paper with a paper towel or blotter. Then print.

**For sized papers**—(e.g. BFK Rives)

*Hand transfer:* Soak paper overnight (up to ten hours). Blot off excess moisture before printing.

*Press printing:* Soak for at least four hours in warm water. Blot off excess moisture before printing.

Additional method for wetting the paper is to soak sheets for 20 mins., drain excess water, stack the paper, wrap in plastic, and allow to sit for 4 hrs. Blot off any excess water immediately before printing.

### PRINTING PROCESS

**Hand transfer**—Starting with one side, lower dampened paper on top of your plate. Place a sheet of acetate on top (this will protect the paper and retain moisture). Push paper into the painted plate using any of the following tools: soft rubber brayer, wooden spoon, rolling pin, or barren. If areas of the image are not transferring, spray mist the back of the paper and continue rubbing until the image is transferred.

**Using a Press**—With your plate face-up on the press bed, place dampened paper over the plate. Place acetate over the paper to protect the blankets during the printing process. After you have run your plate through the press, gently pull away the finished print.



Julia Ayres



Dan Weiden—Hampton Editions

### CURING THE PRINT

**Flattening and drying**—Sandwich your print(s) between sheets of newsprint. Place acetate, glassine or wax paper on top. Use a flat weighted surface to keep the paper flat while drying. Change the newsprint as it becomes damp.