

What is Giclée?

The name has been borrowed from French and is a generally accepted designation for graphic art pictures produced by means of the digital ink-jet printing technique. Only prints produced in pigmented archive-resistant ink and on graphic/water-colour paper are considered Giclée Fine Art. There are several paper manufacturers who produce specially adapted paper and canvas with a coated surface. This is a technique that has often been used for reproducing but that is now accepted for independent graphic art as well.

Advantages of Giclée

The pictures will be archive-resistant for over 70 years – no visible colour changes will occur if the picture is mounted and preserved correctly. You get colours and detail resolution of very high quality. It is possible to print small graphic editions, and you do not have to print the entire edition at once. Trial prints are in exact accordance with the finished print.

On graphic art

Graphic art involves multiplying a picture in order to disseminate an artistic expression in more than one copy. What is an independent graphic work of art and what is a reproduction can be discussed. Etching, dry-point, woodcut, serigraphy and lithography are all examples of techniques developed through the centuries. Photographic methods have been used since the mid-1800s and the digital technique since the 1960s. The digital technique has developed very fast and is now available to people working in the visual arts.

What do you do?

Your original must be transformed into digital information that can be transferred from the computer to the printer. The original of a picture can be scanned, photographed or created in the computer. Once the picture is in the computer, it can either be changed infinitely or preserved as an almost exact copy of the original.

These decisions are made by the artist.

What can the original look like?

The original can be a drawing, a watercolour, a pastel, an acrylic, a collage, an oil, a gouache, a photograph etc. that is scanned or photographed depending on the technique. You can work on drawing film, for example. The picture can also be entirely or partially created in the computer and be diminished or enlarged.