

Giclée Print Care

Giclée Prints

Giclée (pronounced zhee–klay) is a specialist printing method that produces archival quality prints unparalleled in detail, colour, tone, brilliance and longevity. The print has the same colour matched tone and hue of the original painting.

Light Fastness and Displaying your Print

Original art and prints fade depending on where they are displayed. Under normal lighting conditions in a home or office a professionally framed Giclée print should last 70 years before any fading is apparent. However, displayed under intense artificial light conditions or in direct sunlight any print or even original will fade. To avoid damage to your print, have it professionally framed using archival specification materials.

Please allow at least two weeks before displaying your fresh print to allow the inks to bed in to the paper.

Framing your Giclée print

I recommend that you have your prints professionally framed using acid free materials for mounting and acid free corner holders or cloth hinges. Mount the frame half an inch from the wall for essential air flow between the wall and the finished frame. Use UV light blocking glass to prevent UV light from aging the paper or fading colours.

Displaying your framed print

Avoid hanging prints near heating or cooling sources and avoid atmospheric pollution such as smoke or aerosol chemicals, which may cause print deterioration by condensation. Most importantly, avoid direct sunlight and high intensity fluorescent lights.

Storage

When displaying your Giclée prints on an infrequent basis. Mylar (polyester) is recommended for its stability. If Mylar is not available, acrylics such as Perspex, Lucite and Plexiglas will suffice but should be replaced every few years. Vinyl, PVC or other soft plastics must be avoided. The softer and more flexible the plastic, the easier it is for solvents to leak out. Avoid lamination or photo albums with "magnetic pages."

Ideally store you prints in Mylar sleeves, with buffered pH neutral paper sheets on both sides of the print, preferably in a cool and moderately dry environment. Moth crystals and silica gel will help keep out pests and stabilise humidity.