

PRINT VOCABULARY

Common printmaking vernacular. Make these part of your everyday language. For example, "Say Johnny, could you refrain from beating me across the head with that scraper bar. That would be swell, thanks."

GENERAL PRINT TERMS

Printmaking-

Matrix-

Planographic-

Screenprint-

Relief-

Intaglio-

Monotype-

Monoprint-

Archival-

Deckle-

Tear Bar-

Waterleaf Paper-

Watermark-

Sizing-

Impression-

Edition-

To Pull a print-

Offset-

Double print-

Strike-

B.A.T -

Artist's Proof-

Proof-

Registration-

Slip sheet-

Solvent-

Water-based-

Non-Toxic-

LITHOGRAPHIC TERMS

Lithography-

Limestone-

Aluminum Plate-

Hydrophilic-

Oleophilic-

Talc-

Asphaltum-

Deep "v" Etch Lacquer-

Nitric Acid-

Phosphoric Acid-

Mineral Spirits-

Lacquer Thinner-

Acetone-

Counter-etch-

Citric Acid-

Webril Wipe-

Simple Green-

Rub-up-

Wash out-

Lithographic Press-

Press Bed-

Yoke-

Plate Backer or Slate-

Tympan-

Tympan Grease-

Scraper Bar-

Leather Roller-

Rubber Roller-

Ink Slab-

Roller Scraper-

Roller Box-

Levigator-

Squeegee-

Carborundum Grit-

Resist-

Litho Pencil-

Litho Crayon-

Tusche-

Autographic Ink-

Rubbing Ink-

Iron oxide-

Conte Crayon-

Chalk-

Gum Arabic-

Rosin-

T and Bar Registration-

Photolithography-

Exposure Unit-

Light Units-

Developer-

Kleargum-

Viscosity-

Body-

Tack-

Drier-

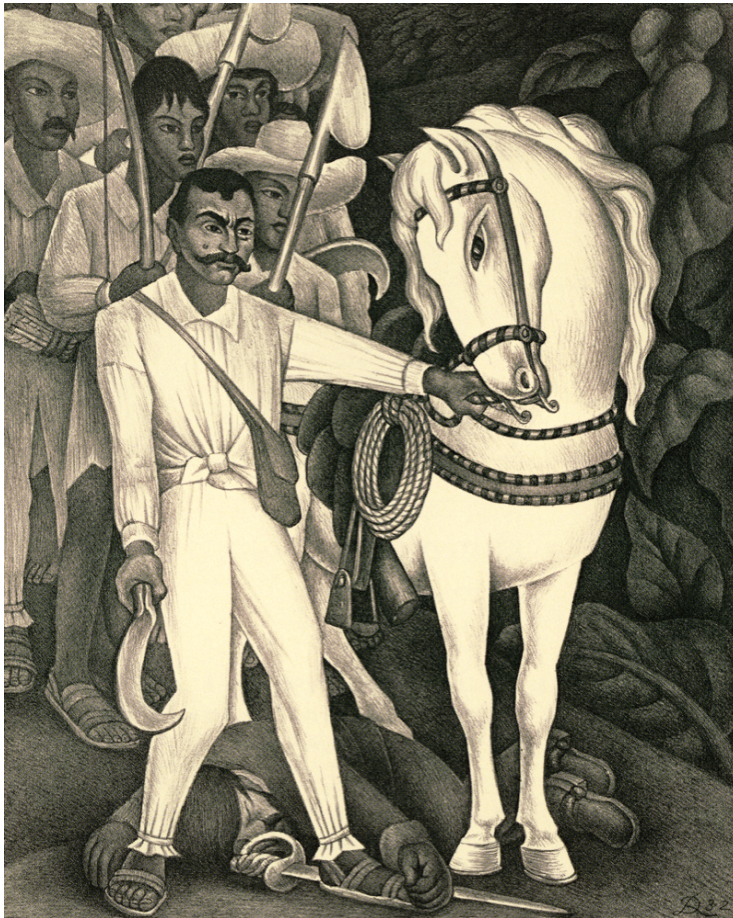
Mag-

Varnish-

Spatula-

Straight Edge-

INTRODUCTION TO LITHOGRAPHY



Diego Rivera, "Zapata", 1932

What is Lithography?

It is a *planographic* (surface printing) or chemical form of printmaking. This means that the image is produced as a completely flat matrix (as opposed to physical relief as in woodcut or intaglio) and is created by a chemical process. *Lithography is based on the principle that grease and water repel each other.*

Brief History

Aloys Senefelder discovered lithography in 1798 in Bavaria. He was not an artist, but a playwright, looking for an inexpensive means to reproduce his works. Senefelder discovered that a mark made on a piece of limestone with a greasy drawing tool, if processed in a certain way, would attract and hold a greasy ink when the stone was wet whereas the negative (or non image) areas would resist the ink. This image could then be transferred to a piece of paper when sufficient pressure was applied. Lithography however, became rapidly popular not for its text reproducing capabilities but because of its unique autographic (direct drawing) marks. In the 19th century lithography became the chief means of reproducing works of art and illustrating books, posters, and magazines. Various adaptations have evolved, such as *offset* (which speeds up the process significantly), *photolithography*, and most recently, *laser plates*

on which images can be created from a laser printer and printed directly, without chemical processing.

The Tamarind Institute, created in the US in 1969 by June Wayne, trains master printers in lithography. Before Tamarind, most professional lithographic printing was done in Europe. The following publications were essential in putting together the information in this packet:

The Tamarind Book of Lithography

Tamarind: Aluminum Plate Lithography Manual