English Artists' Paper: What's New

ABSTRACT

It has been fifteen years since English Artists' Paper: Renaissance to Regency was first published. During that brief interval of time, considerable interest and an impressive amount of research has occurred worldwide. These studies focused on the history of the types of papers used by artists. In updating the original text, the second edition of English Artists' Paper pulls together many of these new sources.

One of the pleasures of the new edition is that it encouraged the author to look for additional illustrations. Objects were sought in the massive collections of the British Museum and the Louvre, and in lesser-explored collections such as Robert Adam's workbooks in Sir John Sloane's Museum and the archives of student work at the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts.

The book is written in four chapters. The first provides the basic information needed to understand hand paper-making while the following chapters introduce specific paper types. Chapter two introduces the three broad categories of white, brown, and blue papers. Chapter three focuses on new products, particularly for printing and drawing. The last chapter explores the exuberant creation of a popular market for new artists' paper, which occurred around the year 1800.

New information is given special emphasis in several of these subjects, including the introduction of European wove paper and the development of silk paper for drawing in pastels and chalks, copperplate paper for printing, and rough-surfaced drawing paper for watercolors. Also included are new findings on some of the popular paper products of the time, in particular filigree paper and transparencies.

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REFERENCE

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