

Print making

A great way to start an art collection

GALLERY DIRECTOR SARAH WISEMAN REVEALS WHY PURCHASING A PRINT IS A GREAT WAY TO START AN ART COLLECTION. HIGH QUALITY AND SKILFULLY MADE, THEY CAN STILL BE RELATIVELY INEXPENSIVE. IF YOU KNOW WHAT TO LOOK FOR, THE PRINT WILL HAVE A RECOGNISED VALUE, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT WILL BE A PLEASURE TO OWN.



Trevor Price
'Great British Eccentrics 2016'
Drypoint and engraved relief
print
H 57cm x 111 cm

Printmaking is a significant part of the curation of Sarah Wiseman Gallery and we exhibit a number of leading UK contemporary printmakers. We describe these artists as 'printmakers' as their sole specialism is printmaking, however a number also cross over into painting.

Printmaking also adds a new dimension within an established art collection. It brings in new artists and can develop a complete overview of an artist's output if their body of work involves different techniques.

A print is in essence a transfer process, made in multiples, or editions. Artist's prints, as they are often known, are not reproductions

of a painting or other types of art work. A print is an original artwork in its own right. Processed by hand, by the artist, or as a collaboration between an artist and specialists at a print studio, this type of art is a true alchemy of strong visual artistry and expert technical knowledge.

There are numerous printmaking techniques to discover, each with their differing qualities, tones and textures, often not achievable through painting or drawing alone. Whether you're drawn to the moody, smoky tones of an etching or the bright, clean line and colour of a silkscreen print, contemporary printmaking is an amazingly diverse medium with many artists working to innovate their particular techniques.



(above)
Angie Lewin, 'Spanish Seedheads'
Wood engraving on paper, H38cm x 32.5cm

(right)
Angie Lewin, working on a silkscreen transparency



TOP TIPS FOR BUYING A CONTEMPORARY PRINT:

1 Don't be afraid to ask questions about your chosen print. You may discover all sorts of gems about the artist, the medium or other nuggets of information. Here at Sarah Wiseman Gallery, all of our artists are known to us personally, so we have a great deal of insight into all of our artists' methods.

2 Look for a signature and edition number. Hand-made prints will be signed by the artist and its edition number written at one corner. A/P stands for 'artist's proof', and is normally a completed print, separate to the edition number. Traditionally, this 'proof' was a control sample against which the rest of the edition was compared to.

3 If you are buying work that is unframed, it is well worth investing in a bespoke frame rather than using a ready-made one. Bespoke frames use conservation-grade materials that not only show the artwork to its best, but preserve it for years to come. Sarah Wiseman Gallery offers a framing service and we are always pleased to guide you through options to suit your budget and style preference.



(above)
Angie Lewin, 'Night Thrift'
72cm x 96cm Unframed
Wood engraving on paper

(right)
Trevor Price, 'Sea Dance I'
Mono-print on paper, H83.5cm x 100cm

