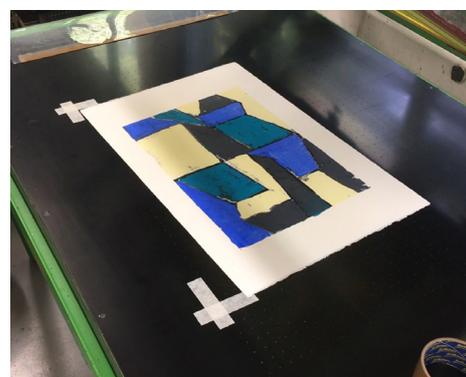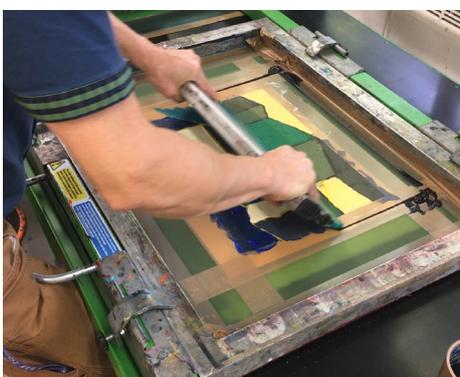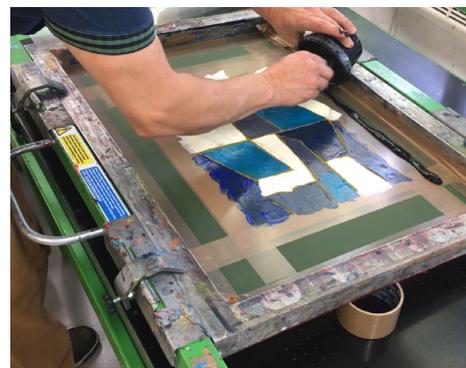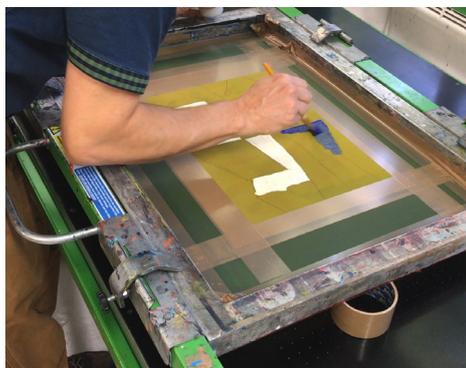# Serigraphy
Acrylic Mono–Screenprint

Mono-screenprinting is a great way of producing quick, spontaneous and painterly prints that are one of a kind. The technique can be used on its own or in conjunction with photographic stencils, paper stencils or, other printmaking techniques.

Once you begin painting your image onto the screen you have approx 15 minutes working time, otherwise the ink will dry into the screen causing blockages in the mesh.

The image is painted onto an open screen using soft brushes and acrylic screenprinting ink, then it is pushed through the mesh using a squeegee with a flood of medium alternatively you can use ink for the flood, this will render any unpainted areas in the flood colour.

Before you begin:

• Cut your paper to size and position it on the bed in registraion.

• Use one of the 'flats' screens and adjust the size of the opening using the buff vinyl tape to allow at least a 10mm border on your paper.

• You can use charcoal to lightly draw out a guide for your imagery before you begin painting.

• Mix your inks: 50% acrylic - 50% printing medium, add a few drops of retarder to slow the drying time down.

• Ensure you have plenty of brushes to hand in various sizes to avoid stopping to clean brushes.

01. With your screen clamped in place and slightly raised off the bed, paint your image onto the open area of the mesh with your prepared inks.

Start with the largest areas of colour, these will remain wet the longest, work your way to the smaller and more detailed areas. Use the biggest brushes you possibly can to apply the paint.

02. Paint any areas you wish to remain the colour of your paper with acrylic medium to stop the image smearing as you pull the print.

Small gaps between the inks can be left unpainted to achieve an outline when flooding with colour ink.

03. When the design is ready, apply acrylic printing medium or your key colour along the top edge of your design, where your squeegee will start.

04. Lift up the screen and place a sheet of paper in position on the bed underneath.

05. With the screen lowered, start with the squeegee above the line of acrylic medium, with firm pressure drag it down the screen at a 45° angle.

06. Lift up the screen to reveal the print underneath.

Once you have finished printing, immediately clean the screen to avoid causing blockages in the mesh.