

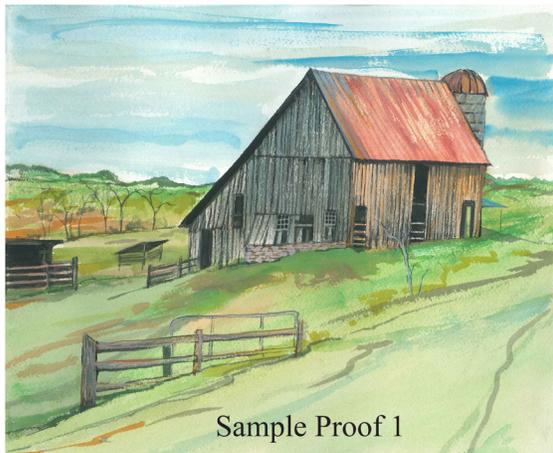
What is a Giclée?

So, what is a giclée you ask? The word giclée (pronounced zhee-klay) is a French word that means “to spray”. The giclée process is a fairly new technique in reproducing original artwork and was only invented in the late 1980’s. Jack Duganne is noted to have coined the term, giclée, according to Wikipedia.com.

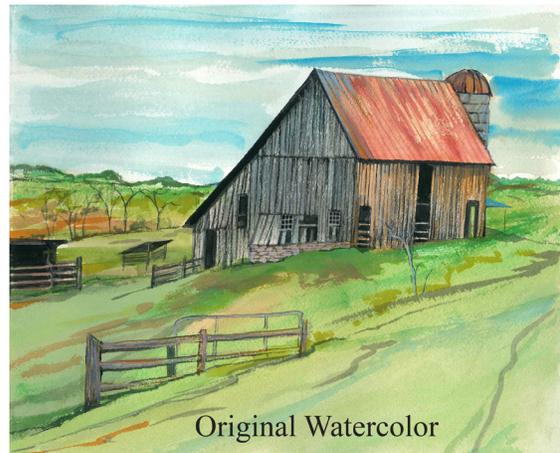
Giclée prints are fine art reproductions that are printed on large-format, high-resolution inkjet printers. The giclée is typically printed on archival and acid-free substrates using fade-resistant, archival inks and printed on Epson, Canon, HP, and other large format printers. These inkjet printers are not your normal office machines; they use pigment-based inks in an 8-12 color CMYK process which increases the resolution and color gamut. The pigment-based inks have a long life span that can last anywhere from 100 to 200 years without significant fading.



To create a giclée, the original work of art is scanned on a high quality flat-bed scanner or photographed under specific lighting conditions. A high resolution digital file of the art is then created. The printer then works with this digital file so that the hues and



Sample Proof 1



Original Watercolor



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subtleties in color of the original will be captured in the reproduction. This involves many stages of proofing: outputting (printing) a sample print followed by color corrections on the digital image, comparing every inch of the sample to the original work of art. The goal is for the reproduction to match the original as much as humanly possible. Once the printer feels he has achieved this goal, production is ready to begin.

The final digital file is sent to the printer and the image is printed either to paper or to canvas. The ink is sprayed back and forth across the surface, line by line. This printing process is slow but very precise. When producing a giclée on paper or canvas, a roll of paper or canvas is fed through the printer. Once the correct number of prints is printed, they are trimmed to the final size. If the giclée is on canvas, it is then sprayed with an environmentally-safe, protective coating that protects the canvas from damage, such as water, and retards the natural aging forces in the home environment.



When purchasing a print that indicates it's a giclée, make sure it is printed on archival substrates using archival, pigmented inks. A giclée print should have a life span of at least 80 years or more if properly cared for by the owner. The purchase of a giclée does come at a higher price than a traditional offset lithograph print; however, no other reproduction process can match the quality of a giclée, nor come as close to reproducing the artist's original work of art as the giclée.

*Researched and written by Angela Clawson,
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P. Buckley Moss is an American and Virginia artist, whose art expresses her interest in strong family values and cultural heritage in her own distinctive style, giving us a collection of art that is filled with a lifetime of experiences. She is known as America's most celebrated living artist. She currently lives in Radford, Virginia and travels around the country to attend shows with galleries and meet her collectors and sign her work for them.



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