



# Alternative Photography Summer School

## Cyanotype Printing Instructions



A historical printing technique from 1842



### Materials you will need:

- Cyanotype Paper
- Clip Frame
- Leaves, flowers, feathers. Other items that can be used if you have them are stencils, digital acetates, or negatives.

### Method:

1. Working indoors under subdued light or regular household light bulbs, take a sheet of cyanotype paper out of the envelope and place it onto a clip frame backing board with the cyanotype treated side face up. The paper may look green or blue on one side and this is the side you want facing upwards.
2. Place your flower (nothing too bulky as the glass may not be able to be closed in complete contact with the paper) and/or leaves arrangement onto the paper and when you are happy with your layout, place the glass on top of your arrangement, pressing everything into contact and clip the frame back together.
3. Take outside and place in direct bright sunlight for around 20-25 mins or more.
4. After the suggested time, bring everything back indoors, remove the glass, the leaves and flowers, etc, to reveal a silhouette of the image, place in a tray of cold water and wash for around 5 – 10 mins. You will see the unexposed chemicals floating off the paper, which will start to turn the water blue. The rest of the image will turn a darker blue, leaving the permanent archivally stable image on the paper.
5. Leave your print to dry and as it does so, you will notice it darken even further. Once dried completely your image is a permanent archivally sound print.



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