Dry Point Etching on Fabric

How to Print

Use a squeegee (or off cut of matt board) to apply the Akua ink onto the plate. Use 1 bead across the bottom of the squeegee.
Once plate is covered, put upside down on telephone book and wipe as clean as possible.
Then use a piece of tarlatan to finish cleaning the plate and around the edges.
Keep the tarlatan flat. Do not scrunch up. When wiping do not use your fingertips apply the pressure with the palm of your hand

Ensure the fabric is crease free. Lay the fabric down and dampen using spray bottle or a sponge. Lay the plate (scratched side down) onto the fabric.

Start with the Pin press in the middle of the plate and gently roll to the top and back to the bottom gently. Do not roll off the plate. Once you have done this a couple of time, then add pressure. You may gently roll off the plate but ALWAYS lift the pin press and start in the centre of the plate.

Gently lift the plate off the fabric.

Allow to dry, heat set with an iron.

Printing Background Colours

If you want to do a background colour, your first step is to use another plate the same size as your first. Roll out some Aqua ink using a brayer and apply evenly to the plate.

Ensure the fabric is crease free. Lay the fabric down and dampen using spray bottle or a sponge. Lay the plate (inked side down) onto the fabric.

Start with the Pin press in the middle of the plate and gently roll to the top and back to the bottom gently. Do not roll off the plate. Once you have done this a couple of time, then add pressure. You may gently roll off the plate but ALWAYS lift the pin press and start in the centre of the plate.
Then ink up your etched plate and print over the top of your background colour.

Doing Ghost Prints

After you have done your first etched print, you can pull more ink out of the plate. Simply roll out some Akua release agent using a clean brayer and then apply (in a single roll) to the etched plate. Then print as above. You may get up to three extra prints using the release agent.

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