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#### Making Fine Art B&W Inkjet Prints

In the "good-ol'-days" of photography, making even mediocre fiber-based B&W prints was a real chore. Not only did you have to process under a dim safe light, but you had to get your hands wet too. Then, after hours of work, when you thought you finally had a good print, you still had to contend with that evil monster; DRY DOWN. A print that looks good in the wash still makes you wait, sometimes an entire day, until it's fully dry before you could see how it really looks. Some less patient souls might use the Ansel Adams method of speed drying. But putting a SILVER halide print into a microwave oven might not be that safe. Luckily advances in inkjet technology have brought the making of fine B&W fiber-based prints out of the dark kitchens, into the daylight.

Ever since the introduction of the Epson/Fujifilm Stylus Pro X800 series of printers, owners had the ability to make more pleasing B&W prints. That was accomplished by not only changing the driver interface to include an Advanced B&W mode, but also incorporating a new level of gray, Light Light Black, to the UltraChrome K3 ink set.

To get to the Advanced B&W interface area is easy. In Windows,

1. click "start"
2. click "Printers and Faxes"
3. right click your large format printer and click "Properties"
4. click "Printing Preferences..."
5. click the "Custom" radio button in the Mode section
6. click the "Advanced..." button
7. click the drop-down button under Color and choose "Advanced B&W Photo"



Once in the Advanced B&W Photo mode, you'll be presented with not only controls for density & contrast manipulation, but also a method for varying image tint that can recreate the "look" of classic fiber-based toning like brown, selenium, sepia, etc. Mastering the controls will take some testing, but there is a small picture in the upper right corner that offers an approximation of what your image will print like.

So now that you know how to make a B&W print, you're probably wondering how to get that fabulous fiber-based B&W "look"? Choosing the right paper is really an esthetic decision. Your customers are your best barometer for that. FUJIFILM Talbot Museum Fine Art paper was specifically designed to replicate the beauty and experience a classic air-dried, glossy surfaced, fiber-based B&W print provides. But don't take our word for it; request a fine art sample pack by e-mailing us at info@fujihuntusa.com. Swaying one of your Pro/Am customers into purchasing a B&W print made from one of their color images may be easier than you think.

#### Why Use A Manual Cutter for Fine Art Media?

The automatic cutter used in Epson/Fujifilm large format printers was really designed to cut only resin-coated photo paper. Using the cutter for thick fine art papers and canvas will only dull the blade and could eventually break the cutter mechanism. The alternative is to use a manual cutter. The one we use is a great little plastic gadget made by Alvin called the Zippy Cutter. It costs about \$3.00 and uses a replaceable double edged razor blade. Just google "zippy cutter" to find a supplier.

#### A NEW "Look" to Our Web Site

We've just redesigned our web site to make it easier to find the products and services FUJIFILM Hunt Chemicals provides. To get to our wide format inkjet section, all you have to do is go to [www.FujiHuntDigital.com](http://www.FujiHuntDigital.com). There you'll find information on Fujifilm and Epson media, ICC profiles and a lot more.