

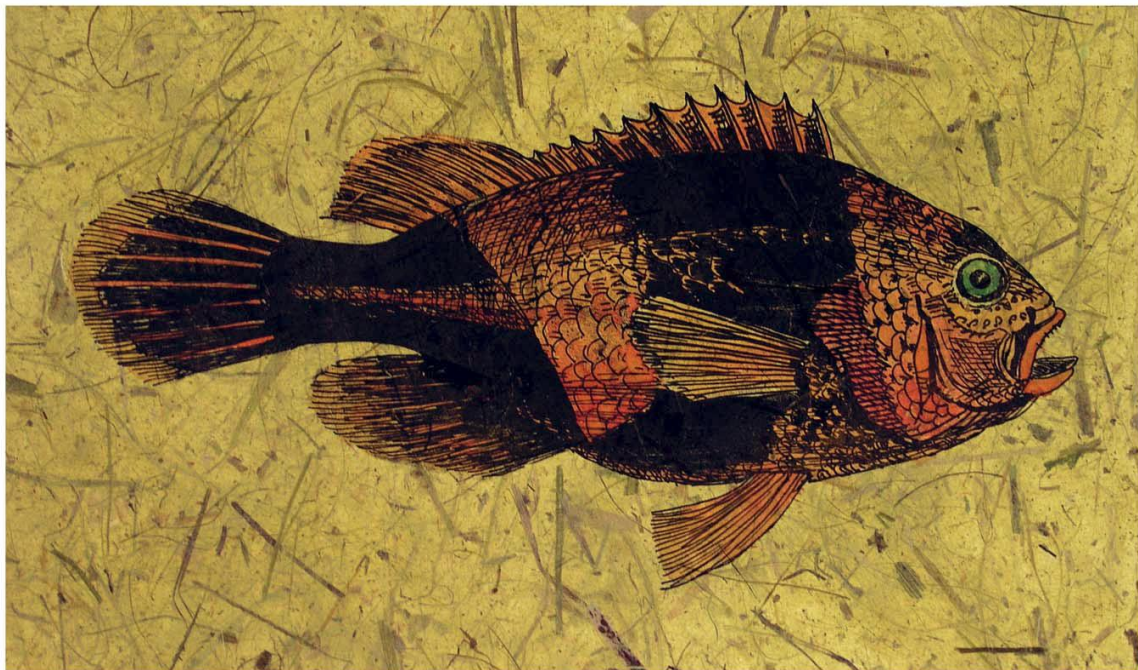
## Chine-collé & rice glue

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Chine-collé is the process for simultaneously printing a thin sheet of oriental paper while fixing it to a thicker backing paper using the pressure of the printing process. Coloured or textured oriental papers create interesting backdrops in the print.

Making your own glue is economical, ecologically sound and it also means you can make it to the consistency you prefer. The rice glue is acid free, stable once dry and does not change colour.

Various readymade glues are also available including the Japanese rice glue - in a green tube, acid free glue sticks (not rice based) and paste glues consisting mainly of wheat starch (with gluten removed) or corn starch. Some wallpaper glues are suitable - test first.



“The Fish” Annie Day, waterless lithograph, Chine-collé & watercolour

### Rice glue recipe

Add 12g of rice flour to 225 ml water – stirring constantly bring to the boil and cook for one minute. Pour into a heated jar and refrigerate. The glue will last up to a week. To soften reheat in a microwave for a minute. Rice flour is available in supermarkets.

### Dry Chine-collé onto damp printmaking paper

When using this method the printmaking paper is a little damper than usual and re-activates the dried glue on the chine-collé forming a perfect bond with the backing paper. Because the chine-collé is dry it is much easier to handle and place in position on the plate. This is an excellent method if you take time to prepare the chine-collé in advance.

1	Paint the rice glue liberally on to the back of a whole sheet of chine-collé paper taped to a plastic covered board. Dry, preferably overnight before using.
2	When dry cut or tear the chine-collé to size
3	Soak printmaking paper longer than normal.
4	Ink the plate and place on press bed face up.
5	Place the dry chine-collé glue side up on top of plate.
6	Dry the soaked printmaking paper with a towel and carefully place over the plate and chine-collé and pass through the press.

## Using Chine-collé freshly glued and printed

The glue is simply applied to the back of the chine-collé with a brush and printed glue side up on the top of the plate. This is harder to handle as it can be sticky and excess glue can leak out. Many rice papers become unmanageable when the wet glue is applied, in this case the alternative is a glue stick.

1	Paint rice glue sparingly on to the back of the piece of chine-collé paper
2	Place glue side up on top of the inked plate
3	Place printmaking paper on top
4	Print



“Granny’s Vase” Annie Day, waterless lithograph, Chine-collé & watercolour



## Gluing Chine-collé to the printmaking paper before printing

The glue is applied to the back of the chine-collé with a brush. The chine-collé is placed glue side down on top of the paper and passed through the press, the plate is printed directly after. This method is suitable for plates that can be printed face down such as photopolymer plates, waterless lithographic plates and some relief plates.

1	Paint rice glue sparingly on to the back of a piece of chine-collé paper
2	Place chine-collé glue side down on the dampened printmaking paper
3	Pass through the press to adhere the chine-collé
4	Place the inked plate face down on the chine-collé, cover the back to protect the blanket and pass through the press.



"Sea Serpent" Jan Melville, photopolymer intaglio and hand made chine-collé