

Chlorophyll Printing

This is the process of bleaching a photograph directly on to the surface of leaves using a positive layered over a selected, freshly cut leaf, and exposed to sunlight until the leaf begins to yellow. It is a positive-to-positive method of printing, developed by Artist Binh Danh.



Image by Almudena Romero

Equipment Needed:

- Positive (image on acetate)
- Scissors or something to cut the stem of a leaf
- Clip frame
- Fresh leaf
- Tissue (perhaps not essential)
- Strong sunlight is essential

1. Pay attention to the weather. Start this process when there is plenty of sunlight.
2. This process is trial and error. Head out to find a fresh leaf or leaves to work with. Think about size of leaf and size of your Positive. Some leaves may work better than others.
3. Place the leaf in the clip frame, position the positive on top of the leaf (face up), and secure the glass on top.
4. Depending on the length of your exposure, you may need to attach a piece of dampened tissue to the stem to avoid the leaf dying before the bleaching process is complete. This is why it is better to do this process when there is plenty of sunlight to reduce exposure time.
5. After 24 hours, carefully open the clip frame, partially lift the positive from the leaf and check the bleaching/exposure. Continue exposing if necessary until bleaching is complete.
6. Once complete, there are ways to preserve your leaf, such as acrylic or lamination, or store well. Keep out of direct sunlight.

Product Links:

Acetate -

https://www.amazon.co.uk/OHP-Film-A4-Overhead-Projector/dp/B01LYCVN26/ref=sr_1_11?dchild=1&keywords=a4+acetate&qid=1585557496&sr=8-11

Clip Frame -

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Memory-Box-Frameless-A4-21cmx29-7cm-Certificate/dp/B0798V51Z2/ref=sr_1_1_sspa?dchild=1&keywords=a4+clipframe&qid=1585557431&sr=8-1-spons&psc=1&spLa=ZW5jenlwdGVkUXVhbGlmaWVyPUEwNjU1NDMwS0MxUzFDODRZVkImZW5jenlwdGVkQWRJZD1BMDg0NDM4OE5NR01GVjhTTDZGWiZ3aWRnZXROYW11PwX2F0ZiZhY3Rpb249Y2xpY2tSZWRpcmVjdCZkb05vdExvZ0NsaWNRPXRydWU=