

Beaux Arts

Gallery Editions Background

Fine art and antiquarian prints made with the very old methods such as copper plate or steel plate engravings and etchings, genuine stone lithography, and hand coloring have become difficult to locate and expensive to acquire. Since the original buyers of this art were the educated, wealthy nobility, great attention was given to its detail and quality. They are prized for their unique style of beauty and their amazing history.

In modern times, the explosion of very inexpensive four-color offset printing press methods and cheap labor in foreign markets created a whirlpool of replicated images and cheap art prints, often with little regard to the quality of the finished product. Individuals seeking unique high quality art products have been driven to hand made “one of a kind” artwork such as original oil or watercolor, genuine antiques, or hand pulled lithographs and serigraphs. Many buyers who would prefer to pursue such quality art simply cannot afford the expense.

Within the last decade, the digital era of computers and superb quality printing devices has ushered in a revolutionary age for art production and print creation while elevating the product quality to an exceptional level in detail and color. This major advancement in print production technology is the first in more than 100 years. Art created with this means are made in small batches and much human attention is paid to the color and detail of the finished product.

Now, the rare and gorgeous old prints that have miraculously survived the centuries can be re-created in a fashion befitting their heritage, and, original art in other mediums can be reproduced economically while maintaining a very high degree of excellence and value. Prices for such reproductions are higher than foreign or mass-produced prints, but the discriminating customer with an eye for high quality can easily see and feel the difference between the two; the quality speaks for itself.

Beaux Arts is proud to offer Gallery Edition reproduction prints of the very best antique prints in our 25,000 piece collection as well as art produced on commission. Fresh images that may have been locked away for centuries can now be enjoyed as the art they were originally intended to be.

All of Beaux Arts Gallery Edition reproductions are printed using gicleé methods on heavy fine art press cotton rag paper, a pure museum quality product of the highest archival, acid free, non-contaminating, fade-resistant quality.

Girard Elliot, *A Monograph of the Phasianidae (Family of the Pheasants)* (1870-72), is widely considered one of the greatest illustrated bird monographs, featuring extravagantly colored birds on large imperial folio sheets. The illustrations capture the splendor and richness of the Pheasant. Offered here are four reproductions of original Elliot pheasant hand-colored lithographs, each originally illustrated by Joseph Wolf.

John Gould, *The Birds of New Guinea (Birds of Paradise)*(1875-1888), created by one of the greatest figures in bird illustration, and the producer of the largest and most diverse body of ornithological illustration ever published.

John Gould, *A Monograph of the Ramphistidae, (Family of Toucans)* (1833-1835)

Basilus Besler, *Tulips* (1613) Originally an apothecary and botanist in the early 17th century, Besler was commissioned by Prince-Bishop Johann Conrad von Gemmingen, to record the progress and changes in the Prince's botanical garden for each season of the year.

Amedee Varin, *L'Empire des Legumes* (1850), These are beautiful reproductions of original engravings from the book *L'Empire des Legumes*, engraved in Paris. The Vegetable Empire is a fantastical world of "vegetable people" who characterize the loveable and less loveable traits of mankind. Full of social satire, these prints are as amusing as they are beautiful.

William Nicholson, words by Rudyard Kipling, *An Almanac of Twelve Sports* (1897) These wonderful humorous prints (May's Lady fishing; June's plump cricket batter; October's golfer) are a presentation of Nicholson's unique impressions of English people and pastimes.

Beaux Arts, *Crustacea*, This series consists of fourteen never before seen images of lobsters, crabs, crawfish, octopus, squid and shrimp. These exceptionally accurate reproductions were taken from original, large format watercolors painted in 1996 and 1997 by Becci Velasquez. A gifted watercolorist, Ms. Velasquez studied medical illustration and received her Masters Degree from the University of Georgia. Her style is evocative of the most gifted 17th and 18th century European natural history illustrators.

Beaux Arts, *Famous Golfers*, an originally commissioned work of the most famous golf personalities in America at the famous Pinehurst Country Club.

Beaux Arts, *Historic New Haven*, turn of the century New Haven, Connecticut comes to life in these original designs incorporating views of notable landmarks and Yale University.