

Glossy Paper Printing

While changing inks allows glossy color or B&W with a variety of approaches, this section looks only at the 3-MK 100% carbon workflow.

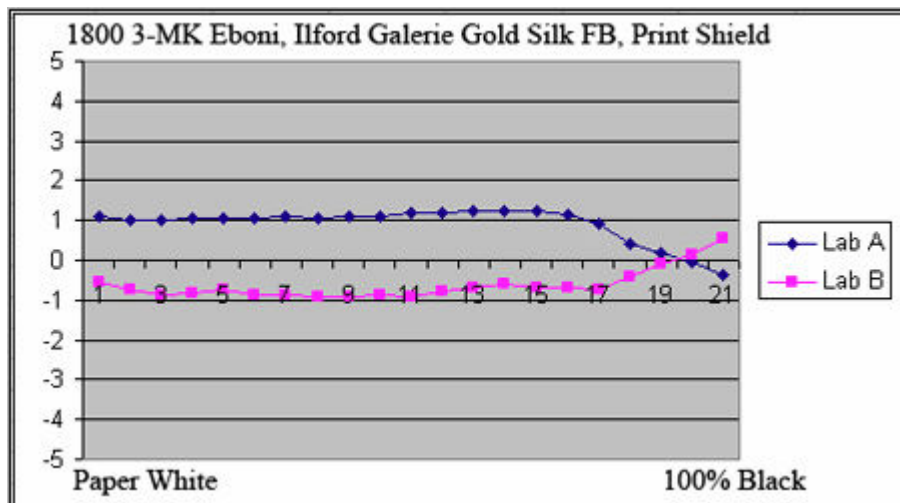
Matte black ink like Eboni will not stick well to glossy papers, including the new fiber-rag papers. Therefore those papers are not reviewed in depth, and matte papers are recommended for most users.

However, if the 3-MK carbon image is sprayed with a fixative coating like Premier Art's Print Shield, a very nice print can be made. In fact, it has unique characteristics. Here the Ilford Galerie "Gold Fibre Silk" is examined.

In general, this Ilford paper prints with a maximum black density of 2.2+.

The finish after spraying might be best described as satin.

The image tone of Eboni on Ilford Gold Silk is the most neutral I've measured.



The print has a bit more grain than a paper like Premier Art Scrapbook, in part because of the higher contrast.

The coating protects the print from water and abrasion. In an un-glazed display this surface would be far more durable than a matte paper.

Print Shield, a solvent-based spray, is the easiest for most to apply evenly, but it requires ample ventilation. The amount of spray needed can be judged by visual inspection of the smoothness of the finish as it's applied in successive light coats.

While much more work, the potential for neutral, dramatic and durable, 100% carbon glossy-satin prints appears to be here.

An initial profile for the sprayed print is available here:
<http://www.paulroark.com/BW-Info/1800-Profiles.zip>