



Following a thirty-year career in engineering and business, Harry Palmer has become one of Canada's most recognized artists and master photographers. Exhibited and collected internationally, examples of Palmer's most notable work includes his portrait of The Companions of the Order of Canada, commemorating Canada's 125th birthday, as well as his exhibition on Canadian war veterans and their memorial work which was viewed by Queen Elizabeth II, during the 1990 opening of the Museum of the Regiments in Calgary.

For two decades, Palmer has continued to use conventional photography for his documentary work, but wanted to find a media that would approach or exceed the look and permanence of traditional photography.

"In conventional photography I was always very aware of the need not only to achieve high-quality art but also the need to make prints that had longevity," Palmer noted. "Sale of prints to significant institutions required capability of achieving resistance to fading and unwanted staining."

Over a period of several years, Palmer strived to find a better media, which eventually led him to a transition into the realm of digital photography through the manipulation of conventional photographic images using computer software.

Palmer began testing a few different inks and several types of media for digital printing and quickly became aware that many ink/media combinations were unacceptable. Choosing his media carefully, Palmer soon tested fade resistant dye inks, pigment inks, watercolor papers, and a range of Magic® media from InteliCoat Technologies.

Eventually, Palmer settled on a German six-color pigment ink set (DICO) and two types of media from InteliCoat. Magic DMTB9, a Tyvek® grade tear resistant media, for his

fine art prints and for his posters, Magic DMPG150 matte presentation paper, an easy to laminate heavyweight matte paper designed for color graphic applications. The end result is printed on a 24" Epson 7000 printer.

"Each media has a similar and reliable gamut with the DICO ink," said Palmer. "The Tyvek and matte prints are tolerant to rolling and shipping without damage in ordinary mailing tubes. I advise customers that the fine art (Tyvek) prints be matted and mounted like any other fine art print, while the posters (matte paper) can also be mounted like a fine art print or be over and under laminated on a hard board."

A unique feature of the Tyvek material used for Palmer's fine art prints is its tear-resistance that provides the ability to mount the print on a strainer board, allowing the print to be viewed without glass. This becomes increasingly important with larger prints.

"The water resistant Tyvek is so appealing for these types of applications," said Palmer. "It gives more tolerance to handling and finger marking, especially when glass is not used." Palmer's fine art prints are also hand-titled and signed in pencil on the white margin of the print, something he could not do with other media. "These positive features of the Tyvek distinguish the fine art prints from my posters," added Palmer.

Many of Palmer's original art prints are currently displayed on the Plus 15 level of the Calgary Hyatt Regency Hotel.

This year is the fiftieth anniversary of Palmer's graduation from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, BC. As a tribute to his alma mater he donated fifty large digital fine art prints to the University of British Columbia, all produced with Magic DMTB9 Tyvek.