

# Utrecht Art Supplies Company History: Original Egg Tempera Formulas

## Original egg tempera formulas published in the Utrecht Linens catalog ca. 1960:

## HOW TO MAKE PURE EGG TEMPERA

Egg tempera has always been prepared by the artist himself because the egg yolk spoils on short aging, and therefore can not be commercially produced. The difficult and tedious process of grinding the pigments in water that had to be performed by the artist himself in the past now has been completely eliminated by the introduction of Utrechts' Micro-Sperse colors. Professional artists and schools throughout the country now very simply prepare pure egg tempera with our Micro-Sperse colors.

Time-tested egg tempera dries to form a tough, durable film that is almost waterproof, is of extraordinary permanence and remains practically unchanged in color for 500 years.

- 1. Take a fresh egg and completely separate the yolk from the white by an egg-separator or by hand.
- Place the yolk on an absorbent paper towel to remove the remaining white. Any excess white will not injure the results, but will slow down the drying time.
- 3. To remove the skin place the yolk in a strainer and pierce with a sharp instrument, and let it drain into a jar.
- 4. Add an equal amount of Micro-Sperse color and yolk. and thoroughly mix. Use a measuring cup for large amounts. For small amounts, one can take a spoon of Micro-Sperse and a spoon of yolk, place them on the palette and mix together with a stiff bristle brush or palette knife.
- 5. Egg tempera should be used the day it is made and kept in cups covered with a wet rag.

One can vary the proportion of one part egg yolk to one part Micro-Sperse color to meet his own requirements. Egg tempera usually dries with a slight gloss and does not rub off when dry. Paint with too little egg will have no gloss and will easily rub off. To much egg will dry fast and have a higher gloss.

## **RECIPE FOR EGG OIL TEMPERA**

Whole Egg, 1 part, Water, 1 part, Stand Oil, 1/2 part, Damar Varnish, 5 lb. Cut, 1 part

The popular egg oil tempera paint is capable of a wide range ot effects and manipulations and has other properties different from those of the pure egg yolk technique.

First thoroughly mix the whole egg and water with an egg beater. Then, a little at a time, slowly add the oily ingredients ( the damar, stand oil ) while thoroughly mixing the emulsion. One can vary the egg emulsion formula, for example, by reducing the amount of water. The same standard to determine the correct variation of proportion of ingredients are the same used for the pure egg yolk tempera, described above. Micro-Sperse colors are then thoroughly mixed with equal amounts of egg-oil emulsion. Egg oil tempera can be kept in tightly sealed jars for months.

## **GUM TEMPERA EMULSION RECIPE**

Gum Arabic Solution, 5 parts Stand Oil, 1/2 part, Damar Varnish, 5 lb. Cut, 1 part

Thoroughly mix the gum arabic solution with the damar varnish and stand oil solution with an egg beater. The Micro-Sperse color is then mixed with equal parts of gum tempera emulsion and kept in tightly sealed jars for months. The egg, egg oil and gum tempera are thinned with water.

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#### **UTRECHT MICRO-SPERSE COLORS**

YELLOW (OXIDE) OCHRE RAW SIENNA BURNT SIENNA	Per Pint 16 oz. RAW UMBER BURNT UMBER MARS (OXIDE) BLA	List Price	WHOLESALE IVORY BLACK LAMP BLACK ULTRAMARINE BLU	E	Permanent red Titanium white	
PERMANENT YELLOW		List Price NENT ORAT	WHOLESALE .	WHOLESALE 🕌 ULTRAMARINE VIOLET		
	Per Pint 16 oz.	List Price	WHOLESALE			
PHTHALOCYANINE GREEN	PHTHALOCYANINE BLUE	A	LIZARIN CRIMSON	CHROMIUM C	XIDE GREEN, OPAQUE	
8 oz. JAR	8 oz. JAR			8 oz. JAR		
	List Price			List Price		
CADMIUM YELLOW, LT.	CADMIUM OR	ANGE	CADMIL	IM RED , LT .	CADMIUM RED, DP.	

### **UTRECHT MICRO-SPERSE BINDERS**

WATER COLOR BINDER Quart (32 oz.) List Price : ... WHOLESALE

CASEIN BINDE	Quart (32 oz.) List Price :	WHOLESALE
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WAX BINDER Quart (32 oz.) List Price WHOLESALE

Questions? Ask the Expert

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