



SOLAR PATTERNING:

The Employment of Fast and Fugitive Colorants Via the Historical: Anthotypes, Cyanotypes and Leuco Vat: Solar Dye Patterning processes.

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On-going research into natural dyes, mineral dyes) and leuco-vat dyes with the potential to create a sustainable method of patterning fabric that employs the light sensitivity and fastness properties of historic colorants in creating a permanent image in colour upon natural or manufactured fibre bases.

The question being asked: Could this kind of photographic image making be applied as a future, sustainable method of design generation, colouration and patterning of fabric for fashion and interiors? and will the buying public accept such an alternative idea, of a colour or design changing with time.



"The Artists go on boldly,
and are not afraid to be
Chemists,
the Chemists gain courage
and long to be Artists."

The Athenæum 1858

As an eco-form of patterning that uses light as the main catalyst for cloth decoration, the use of historical cyanotypes is well known and the revival of light sensitive vat dyestuffs is well documented and commercially successful but the application of natural dyes as Anthotypes is still at investigatory stages and will rely on changes in attitude to the permanence of a pattern or colour but provides an interesting challenge in eco-patterning to take into further research.

