



Kingston University Receives First A2 Risograph in the UK

Kingston University has innovated its art faculty's print-making capabilities by commissioning Midshire to install the first of its kind RISO Duplicator at its campus in London. The A2 Duplicator is not only the first to be installed in the UK, but a first-to-market product from Japanese manufacturer RISO.

The Problem

The department's two standard inkjet printers did not cater to the massive demand for creating modern screen-print art on A2 mediums. The old, slow, and unreliable machines were becoming an issue for final year students needing to produce high-quality work to tight deadlines. Furthermore, the wasted ink and paper produced as a by-product, meant that faculty finances were quite literally being thrown away.



Kingston
University
London

The Solution

RISO print specialist Daniel Bridgeman identified the RISO A2 Digital Duplicator as the perfect solution. Launched worldwide in April 2016, the device would allow students to create modern artwork by layering the 21 available colours of ink on A2 mediums, currently the most used paper size in the print industry. The Risograph uses a cheap, eco-friendly soy-based ink, and its heat-free printing process ensures a very low running cost with minimal paper jams, further reducing waste. Lastly, the device requires no pre-press preparation and is ready to print in 60-seconds. Combined with its output of 100 pages per minute, the fast, reliable A2 Duplicator can keep up with the demand of the student body.

The Outcome

Since the installation, students from all over the world choose to gain the invaluable experience presented by the A2 Risograph, currently a unique competitive edge only offered to the UK by Kingston University. Over 1,000 individual projects have been completed by both students and staff; artwork is masterfully created at the touch of a button, making the RISO Duplicator an incredibly easy teaching tool for staff, and a niche skill that can be learned quickly by students. Faculty members have even had the opportunity to expand on their own research – featuring works of art produced on the Duplicator in exhibitions and galleries across the Greater London area.

“The RISO Duplicator has been a fantastic investment for the University. It’s challenging our way of thinking and our production processes. It’s not just a printer, but a creative tool, in fact it shares the same principles as traditional screen printing. The low running costs and the 100-sheets per minute print speed make this device a firm favourite for both staff and students.”

