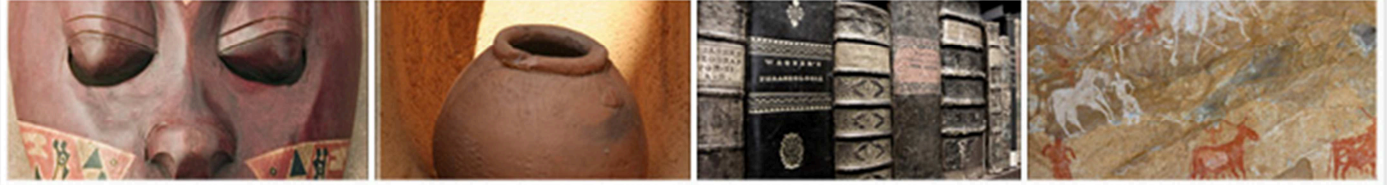




ETHER

The pursuit of an ETERNAL HERITAGE



ETHER Conservation

Each week ETHER Conservation will highlight one product from our conservation and preservation range in this

Product of the Week: Paper Nao Japanese Hand Made Paper

Nao papers from the paper source established by Naoki Sakamoto to promote traditionally made Japanese papers. They are of consistent quality, free of impurities such as mechanical wood pulp, or iron particles caused by poor materials and drying methods common to Far East imitations. The special properties of traditional Japanese Paper in general have long been recognised by Western conservators: low weight, long fibre, porosity, translucence and also exceptional permanence deriving from purity achieved in their manufacture. The pH value of the papers from the Paper Nao range from 6.3 to 9.5.

The Nao papers available from CXD are made from the inner bark of three trees types peculiar to Japan: Kozo, (a type of mulberry) Gampi and Mitsumata (both are species of the Ginchoge). Kozo pulp fibres are typically three times longer than those found in traditionally made European papers. Paper Nao's products are available in rolls and sheets.

Paper Nao's rolls are produced on a unique stainless steel machine. the paper rolls are often preferred over hand made paper sheets for repairing or lining brittle machine made papers which have a definable grain direction.





Typical characteristics of paper and Application

Kozo Fibre: Very long fibre. Durable with its own special sheen. Most frequently used type of Japanese paper.

Gampi Fibre: Durable, thin, most transparent, excellent wet strength, lustrous surface. Traditional uses include gold and silver leaf productions.

Mitsumata Fibre: Used particularly in smooth or soft papers, suitable for calligraphy. Relatively less durable than other papers. Mitsumata fibres are sometimes combined with others.

Applications

Handmade Kozo Papers (K31 - 37) are all particularly suitable for conservation uses.

Urushikoshi K93 is the thinnest handmade Japanese paper available.

Mitsumata Hakuai Shi (M5) is very soft, and traditionally used for gold leaf backing and in decorative box making.

For more information on the products above or on ordering conservation materials please contact Sholeen at sholeen.sanker@ether.co.za.

* The ETHER Initiative is a programme of Roger Layton Associates (Pty) Ltd

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