



Transcript

Boyd Saunders - Step 1: Biting With Acid

Saunders: Check your baselines down there. What I did was to cover the plate with ground with wax, in other words. Cover the plate with wax- a thin coat of brown wax. And then take a needle and start drawing into the wax. When I got done with it, wherever the needle had exposed the wax, the plate was, was bare. I mean, the wax was everywhere else but the plate was bare where the needle had gone down.

And then the plate was placed in a tray of acid. And the acid was repelled everywhere else. But where the needle had gone, the acid got down and bit grooves into the plate. The longer you leave it in the acid, the deeper the groove gets.

Now that's really what the term "etching" is all about. "Etching" means "to bite with acid." It does not mean "to draw" it means "to bite with acid." It comes from the German word "essen." Then after that, then, of course, one takes engraver's burins and tools and scrapers and hammers and gouges and mistreats the plate for a great length of time and refines it, and we're ready to print it.

Video ends.