

These prints are hand made by Bruce Williams. The platinotype process was invented by William Willis in the UK in 1873. By 1892 it was the pre-eminent printing process for artistic photography. World War I imposed a ban on the use of platinum and Willis introduced palladium as a substitute until platinum made a come-back in 1920.

Because of its considerable expense (true to this day), cheaper alternatives like silver gelatin became more widespread and platinum/palladium use declined to almost non-existent over the next 40 years. It was revived in the alternative photography renaissance of the 1970-80s.

Platinum and palladium printing has deservedly regained its place at the summit of alternative photographic printing practice, renowned for the subtly nuanced tonal qualities of its images, which are formed by totally permanent 'noble' metals absorbed into and becoming an integral part of the artists' papers, unlike silver gelatine which is merely a layer of emulsion on the surface of the paper.

These prints are hand coated with a light-sensitised mixture and hand exposed to UV light. They are the pinnacle of archival prints, likely to last a thousand years or more.

For more detailed information, visit https://www.mikeware.co.uk/mikeware/Eighth_Metal.html