

[The Towers of San Gimignano](#) by [Jim Buckels](#) (On Sale!)

Lithograph on Paper - Main Subject: Landscape





Item Number
5721549756

Retail Value
\$99

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\$50
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Dimensions (As Shown)
16W x 20H Inches
40.64W x 50.8H cm

Medium
Lithograph on Paper

Edition
- Limited Edition of 300
- Hand-Signed 
- Numbered 

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About Jim Buckels

Among the generation of American artists now in their early forties, the Iowa born painter and printmaker Jim Buckels is a delightful anomaly: An artist more driven by his inner visions than by fashions and trends. Yet, his work possesses an innate

sophistication that places it prominently within the post-modern mainstream.

In fact, Jim Buckels is a Neo-Surrealist of a peculiarly American breed – a creator of dream-like images, rendered in a meticulous modern airbrush technique with the crystalline clarity of a colonial limner. In his lithographs and serigraphs, as well as in his acrylic paintings, Buckels limns a seamless realm of fantasy that has won him a major reputation in remarkable short span of time.

Jim Buckels' fascination with fantasy began in early childhood. Later, his artistic talent won him a scholarship to the University of Northern Iowa, which his adventurous spirit compelled him to interrupt in his sophomore year, when he enlisted in the U.S. Army for a three year stint, including a tour of Vietnam.

Returning to civilian life in 1971, Buckels resumed his studies at UNI, earning a bachelor's degree in art, and began his career as a freelance illustrator, becoming known for his stylized landscapes, inspired by such regional artists as Grant Wood and Thomas Hart Benton, as well as by the primitive dreamscapes of the great French painter Henri Rousseau.

This unique confluence of influence also informs the acrylic paintings, lithographs, and serigraphs for which Jim Buckels is now best known, with their visionary vistas and fantastic architectural details offering the viewer a restful respite from reality. For, these are paintings and prints that one can not only live with but enter into like a magical refuge, a return trip ticket to the storybook realm of childhood reverie.

More recent prints by Jim Buckels reveal his unique ability to make even more mundane subjects magical. As one New York art critic recently noted, the pictures of Jim Buckels "tell stories that linger in memory long after one has viewed them, hinting at truths that lie just below the surface of the seen world." For this reason, as well as for his outstanding technical skills, Buckels has emerged as a contemporary master whose work will continue to enthrall us for many years to come.

Lithograph on Paper

This printing technique uses a planographic process in which prints are pulled on a special press from a flat stone or metal surface. The surface has been chemically treated so that ink sticks only to the design areas, and is repelled by the non-image areas. Lithography was invented in Germany in 1798. The early history of lithography is dominated by great French artists such as Daumier and Delacroix, and later by Degas, Toulouse-Lautrec, Picasso, Braque and Miro.

Based on the principle that oil and water repel, a Lithograph is created when an artist produces an oil-based or pen image on a stone or piece of metal. This surface is then moistened and covered with an oil-based ink. The resulting chemical reaction between the oil and water drives away the ink on the surface – except where the drawing was first done. Fine quality paper is then placed against the surface and a lithographic press is used to create the print. Modern technology and processes have provided artists with many unique methods with which to create magnificent lithographs. In the 1890s color lithography became enormously popular with French artists, Toulouse-Lautrec most notably of all, and by 1900 the medium in both color and monotone was an accepted part of printmaking, although France and the US have used it more than other countries. George Bellows, Alphonse Mucha, Pablo Picasso, Jasper Johns, David Hockney and Robert Rauschenberg are a few of the artists who have produced most of their prints in the medium.

As a special form of lithography, the Serilith process is sometimes used. Serilith are mixed media original prints created in a process where an artist uses the lithograph and serigraph process. The separations for both processes are hand drawn by the artist. The serilith technique is used primarily to create fine art limited print editions.

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