

# Photosensitivity - Tribal

Colton Latting

Cameras as we know them have been around quite a bit longer than most



people realize. During the 1800's discovery was racing ahead and several years after photosensitive silver salts were discovered, John Hershal discovered photosensitive ferric salts. This method of photosensitivity is still used today to develop blueprints. Art with photosensitivity has just continued to grow more complex with the addition of color photographs, and finally leaving it behind with the invention of the digital camera.

The process used today involves mixing together ferric salts and ferricyanide. This is then used to cover the paper. The paper is then dried in an oven. Any exposure now to UV light will start turning this mixture to a ferric ferrocyanide salt. This new Prussian blue sticks to the paper while the unexposed portions wash off with water, , leaving a negative of the stencil used to make it. The stencil started out as

random shapes and just grew from there. This same process was covered in the general chemistry lab and so was nothing new. It was certainly more fun this time being able to add more customization.