Acid Discharge printing with Indalca Paste

As dyes are translucent, acid discharge printing allows us to “put in” colours into darker shades or complimentary colours on protein fibres like silk, wool or nylon.
It is important to note that not all dyed fabrics and print pastes are dischargeable, so it is important that you test your dyes and print pastes if they are not listed as dischargeable in the dye lab print and colour catalogues.

Discharge paste has a limited shelf life of approx. 24 hours, so it is important to print and steam your discharge work on the same day that it is mixed.

You are strongly advised and encouraged to keep thorough notes for any colour combinations and recipes you develop over your course of study, alongside a small fabric swatch, to help you establish your own colour reference library. You might use the page overleaf or invest in your own print/ dye notebook.

Recipe:
1. 0.5 – 4% ILL. Acid dye powder.
2. 3% mls Glyezin.
3. 8% grams Decrolin.
5. Make up to 100% (approx. 85 - 87.5grams) with Indalca Thickener.

Method:

1. Gather your ingredients, mixing pots and stirrer.
2. Switch on the extraction, positioning in line with your mixing pot.
3. Measure out your dye powder – remember that 0.5 gram of dye powder will create a paler depth of shade compared to 4 grams of dye powder.
4. Add Glyezin and hot water to paste your dye powder, stirring well to ensure the mixture is dissolved. On some occasions dyestuffs may be difficult to dissolve, in these instances the dye might need to be left for a few minutes.
5. In a separate mixing pot measure out the Indalca thickener, adding the dye slowly and stirring thoroughly to ensure that it is thoroughly mixed.
6. When you are ready to print, slowly and carefully add the Decrolin which will activate the Acid discharge paste.
7. Print and dry.
8. Steam for 20 mins minutes in the atmospheric star steamer.

Wash:

1. Rinse in cold water containing 5g of soda ash per litre until the water runs clear.

2. Rinse in a hot wash at 50 – 60*C with a Metapex 26 detergent for 15 – 20 mins until the water runs clear.
3. Rinse in cold water to remove the detergent.
4. Dry and press.