

# Lascaux Sirius® Primary System (Europ. Pat.) a new vision of colour

Sirius paints are of utmost purity and intensity, encompassing the entire colour spectrum. They allow an effortless means of mixing an extensive range of harmonious colours – more than 78 000 hues! The Sirius Primary System has been patented by the European Patent Office, a testimony to its uniqueness.

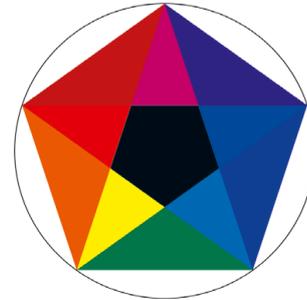
## An holistic experience of colour

The mixing and blending of colours is a primary need of man, and at the same time a basis for creativity. Thus, it should be effortless to perform and result in a brilliant, wide-ranging spectrum of hues. Creative expression and the joy of mixing colours are consequently encouraged.

Both are guaranteed with the Sirius Primary System. The five primary colours are balanced in such a way that they produce luminous, clear and lively colours.

## More than 78 000 hues

The purity of the Sirius colours is, moreover, retained if lightened with Sirius White or when darkened with the neutral Sirius Black. As a result, more than 78 000 diverse and harmonic hues can be created, and the purity and the chroma of the colours always remain intact. This is especially noticeable when mixing subtle earth and pastel hues.

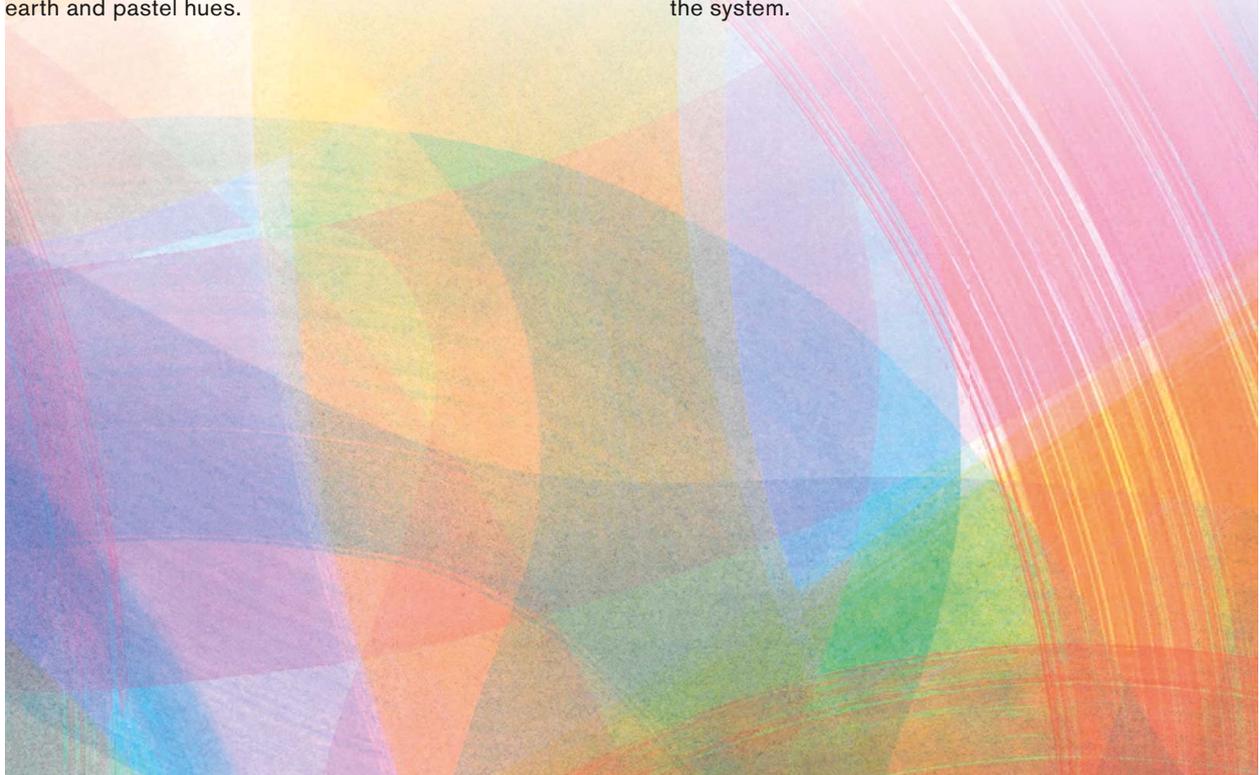


©Sirius Pentagram

Thus, the Sirius Primary System offers a complete colour range using only 5 basic colours.

## Basis of 5 primary colours

High quality pigments and binders, along with precise alignment and harmonising of the hues, create the material foundation of this colour system. The Sirius Primary System is based upon 5 primary colours: magenta, red, yellow, cyan and ultramarine. Mixed in equal parts, the 5 primary colours produce a vibrant neutral black. An additional Sirius White rounds off the system.



Mixtures of Sirius Primary Watercolours

## Sirius Primary Colours

Colours have been arranged according to their wavelengths, modelled on the spectrum of the rainbow: from long-wave magenta to short-wave ultramarine.



The brilliance of the colours cannot be reached with this printing technique (offset print, 3 colours plus black).

### Differentiated perception of colours

The frequencies of the five primary colours, precisely aligned with one another, promote individual colour receptivity (light receptivity) and open a new dimension for the perception of colours.

### A new colour basis

As unique and unlimited as the world is to us, so unlimited are its colours. In order to explain the natural phenomenon of colours, a multitude of colour systems and colour theories have arisen to date in both the scientific and artistic communities.

Colour perception and colour awareness are a result of consciousness, and these mutually impact one another: the more differentiated perception, the more developed is consciousness.

The path from coloured, non-material light to colour as substance is by means of colour pigments, which are basically subordinate to other physical properties such as light and are above all bound to the laws of chemistry.

The Sirius Primary System and the experience derived from it are based upon a holistic view of colour:

- Correlation of theory and practice
- Polarity balance:
  - a warm and a cold red and a warm and a cold blue
  - equal consideration for black and for white
  - equality of light and dark

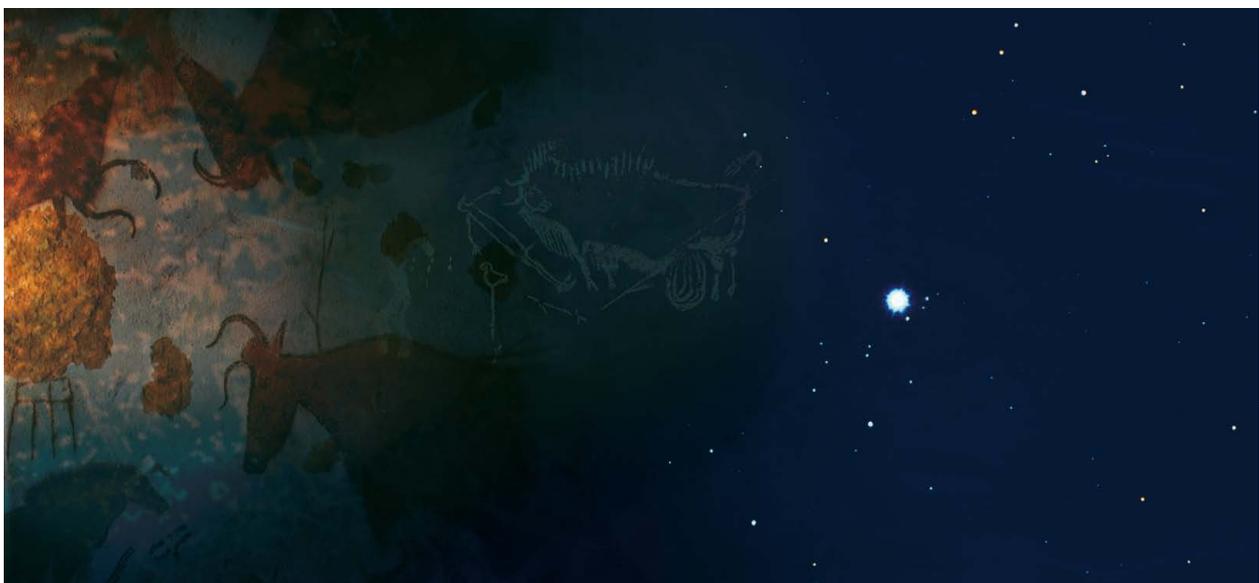
Systems based upon the intermixing of the traditional three primary colours lead to very limited and imprecise results.

The Sirius Primary System is a more advanced colour system, which leads to brilliantly clear harmonies due to the purity of its colours and their balanced frequencies.

### A cosmic whole

In the winter sky Sirius glistens with every colour of the rainbow. This star bears an energetic as well as a mystical relationship to our nearby earthly cosmos. It has been anchored in the cultural traditions of people since the beginning of time. The Sirius Primary System exists thanks to this star.

Mankind experiences oneness with cosmic laws and harmony due to the strength and the magic of colour. They represent wholeness and bestow vitality. They activate personal expressiveness and thus the enjoyment of one's own creativity. The Sirius Primary System connects inner creative power with the cosmic power of the stars.



Wall paintings in the Lascaux Cave, Dordogne, France – Sirius belongs to the constellation of stars known as the Great Dog (Canis major). It is the most brilliant star in the night sky as seen from earth.

## Applications

The Sirius Primary System can be used in all areas in which, beyond the visual, the sensual quality of colour is to be perceived. This means in all processes where an expressive, creative use of colour is defined as the primary task.

### Schools/Kindergartens

From an economical point of view this system offers an important advantage: the entire spectrum can be mixed with the use of very few colours, always resulting in pure clear hues (over 78 000 using the drop method). A pleasurable introduction to painting with wet paints.

### Art/Design

The luminous pure colours allow a differentiated mixing. They also guarantee an inspiring and satisfying experience for the beginner. The small, all-inclusive assortment is ideal for travelling or for painting murals on location.

### Colour concepts/Architecture

The transparency and brilliance of the colours render them ideal for glazing and washing techniques and lend an atmosphere of harmony to every room. The hues also retain full uniformity of colour when lightened or darkened. Moreover, the intensity of the colours means that they can be used sparingly.

### Art Therapy/Healing Arts

Due to the balance and harmony of the colour frequencies, a connection to one's inner healing potential is enabled and balance is attained once again: a central concern in the therapeutic application of painting. The exceptional purity and brilliance of the colours facilitate an expansion of one's individual creative potential.

### Art Education/Colour Theory

Because the theory of this system is easily understood and readily comprehensible on a practical level, it is exceptionally suitable for colour-training courses, schools and academia. A balanced colour wheel, as well as the entire colour spectrum, has been made accessible in chroma hardly imaginable until now.



Michi, 8-years. Format 100 x 108 cm



Peter Roesch (Architecture: Patrick Gmür), Colour Design in the Scherr Schoolhouse, Zurich



Renate Reifert, Ceiling object and wall motif: in the anaesthetic recovery room of a practice for ambulant operations in Wiesbaden

# Lascaux Sirius® Primary System is available as matt, high quality acrylics and watercolours

## Sirius® Primary Acrylic colours

### Base

Consist of pure, lightfast pigments and an age-resistant acrylic binder.

### Properties

- highly concentrated, luminous, pure and extremely buttery, semi-transparent colours
- dry to a deep matt finish and are water-resistant
- more opaque than the Sirius Watercolours
- can be diluted with water or Sirius Acryl Medium. Using Sirius Acryl Medium increases the film strength which is recommended when extensively diluted or when using numerous layers of paint (over-painting)

### Applications

- applicable to almost all porous and non-greasy materials
- appropriate for various painting techniques, including airbrush and silkscreen printing
- mixes with all Lascaux acrylic painting mediums, e.g., Medium and Impasto Gel (glossy or matt)
- the velvety surfaces of exposed works should be protected with a varnish. In outdoor settings, coat with Acryl Transparent Varnish UV

## Sirius® Primary Watercolours

### Base

Consist of lightfast, pure pigments and an aging resistant, modified acrylic binder.

### Properties

- luminous, pure and transparent colours
- dry to a semi-matt finish and remain water-soluble
- can be diluted with water or Aquacryl Medium
- thin layers of colours become almost water resistant when dry. They can be glazed over without dissolving the previous layers. Note, thicker layers redissolve faster

### Applications

- for all porous materials such as paper, cardboard or canvas
- appropriate various painting techniques, including watercolour
- treat with Fixative to ensure long-lasting, scratch- and water resistance

## Delivery

Sirius Primary Acrylics and Watercolours are available in:

### Large Set (7 x 85 ml)

The Sirius Primary System Set consists of:

- 5 primary colours: magenta, red, yellow, cyan, ultramarine
- neutral Sirius black, which has been mixed by Lascaux using the 5 primary colours
- Sirius white for lightening
- mixing palette and empty plastic bottle
- brochure with instructions for mixing and prism strip for the personal colour experience



### Small Set (7 x 30 ml)

The Sirius Primary System Set consists of:

- 5 primary colours: magenta, red, yellow, cyan, ultramarine
- neutral Sirius black, which has been mixed by Lascaux using the 5 primary colours
- Sirius white for lightening
- leaflet



In addition, all Sirius colours are available individually in 30 ml, 85 ml and 500 ml plastic bottles. Sirius Primary Acrylic Colours are also available in 1 litre plastic bottles.

## Other Sirius Products / Offers

- Sirius binders for educational purposes
- Sirius Acrylic swatch book - 770-781
- Workshops - on our premises
- "Idee Farbe" (book German) - Colour systems
- Product Information Sheet: "The 360-part Sirius Colour Wheel"

### Disclaimer:

The information provided above is given to the best of our knowledge and is based on our current research and experience. It does not absolve the artist from the responsibility of first testing the suitability of our products for the substrate and specific use conditions he or she has in mind. This technical sheet will become invalid with any revised edition. The latest update is always found on our website.



swiss made

Lascaux Colours & Restauro, Barbara Diethelm AG, Zürichstrasse 42, CH-8306 Brüttisellen  
Tel. +41 44 807 41 41, Fax +41 44 807 41 40, info@lascaux.ch, www.lascaux.ch