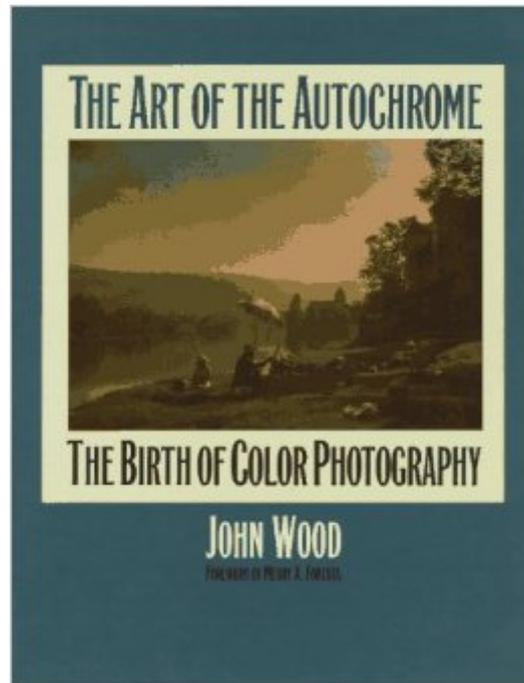


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# The Art Of The Autochrome: The Birth Of Color Photography



## Synopsis

Discusses the history of the first practical color photographic process, shows examples, and explains the process.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 202 pages

Publisher: University Of Iowa Press; 1 edition (August 1, 1993)

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,373,096 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #109 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Equipment, Techniques & Reference > Color](#) #3014 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > History](#)

## Customer Reviews

First, it must be noted that this book was published almost 20 years ago; when it came out there wasn't much knowledge of autochromes, and it presents that important history pretty thoroughly. The text is written by an English (creative writing) professor, from an art-history perspective, and for me there's just a little too much flowery aesthetic judgement. Color plates present 75 autochrome images, with an emphasis on what I would call artsy photographs - still lifes, portraits, etc. - and relatively few of the kind of scenic documentary images that I find more interesting. In case it's unfamiliar, autochrome was an early process for producing color images, invented by the Lumiere brothers in 1907. It involved effectively making three images through different filters, which could then be projected together to show a full-color image. Because they had to be projected, and were more complicated, they never took over photography despite offering full color, and with the exception of some high-profile people like Stieglitz and Steichen the process was largely neglected for decades by the mainstream of photography writers and collectors. This book was in no small part responsible for raising awareness of the genre. The book is printed on good quality paper, with the text on matte paper and the images on glossy. Each image has an explanatory note. As usual with Iowa's books it's a well-designed and well-made book. But it's quite expensive; I'd be happier at half the price, especially given the other options out there. See, for example,

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