# THE CHARACTERIZATION OF HAND-COLOURED WOODCUTS USING REFLECTANCE TRANSFORMATION IMAGING (RTI)

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Fragments from *Christ the Man of Sorrows*, ca. 1500, woodcut.


- Can RTI characterize the processes used to hand-colour woodcuts?
- Should RTI be included in documentation for conservation treatment of hand-coloured woodcuts?

# Sample Preparation

Carving the block

Inking the block

Printing

Mixing the paint

Hand-colouring

# Samples

Brush-coloured

Stencil-coloured

Brush & stencil-coloured

Uncoloured control

# RTI Analysis

## Brush-coloured

Specular enhancement

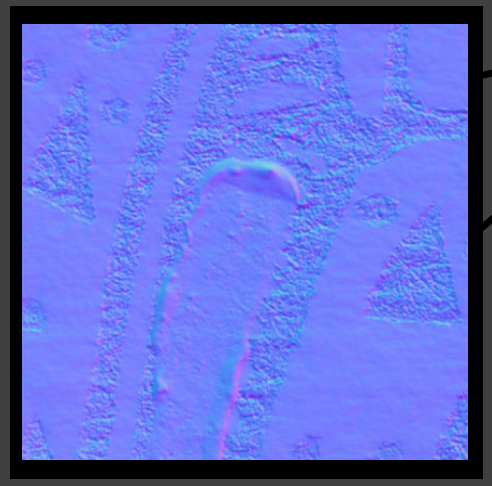
Normals visualization

## Stencil-coloured

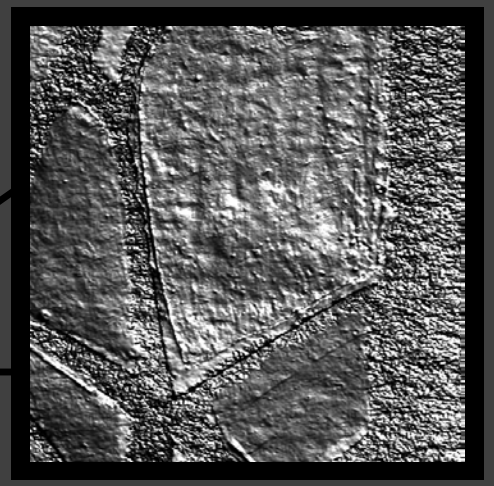
Specular enhancement

Normals visualization

# Preliminary Conclusions



Stencil-coloured



- RTI may be useful for documentation purposes
- Avoid weighted flattening treatments for stencil-coloured woodcuts

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