



## BEVA UVS Matte & Gloss Varnish

### Introduction

Recently developed synthetic resins were utilized to formulate varnishes of exceptional stability. When protected by an appropriate UV absorber and stabilizer, these varnishes do not cross-link or yellow over 100 years, as shown by tests performed by Rene de la Rie and Christopher McGlinchey.<sup>1</sup>

### Properties

BEVA UVS varnishes are a stable, colorless, and reversible, made from hydrogenated hydrocarbon resins, low-aromatic hydrocarbon solvents, stabilizer, and a wax-based matting agent (matte varnish only.) Designed for use in conservation of modern paintings where a matte or gloss finish is desired, and mixing of the two finishes in any proportion will provide variations in between. Formulated to achieve the lowest possible solvent action on the original paint and can be removed with purely aliphatic solvents, maximum resin content for best coverage, and minimum yellowing or cross linking.

### Instructions for Use

UVS varnish comes in two containers, a quart bottle and a dropper. The quart bottle contains the solution of UVS resins and solvents, the dropper contains the UV stabilizer to be added to the varnish as needed.

The two parts should be mixed only prior to use, giving the varnish optimum stability. Therefore, it is advisable to prepare only a small quantity at a time, no larger than two fluid ounces, which is sufficient to cover a medium sized painting. This can be done by using a 3oz. cold-water (unwaxed) paper cup, and is marked with a pencil in one oz. graduations.

The quart bottle is shaken well prior to use to mix any matting agent that may have settled (if using the matte varnish). The cup is then filled with the solution to the desired mark. The tip of the dropper is snipped off, the stabilizer is added (4 drops per oz. of varnish), and stirred well in incorporate. The varnish is now ready for application by brushing or spraying.

Left over varnish can be preserved for short time uses only, such as small-sized paintings or retouching varnish. The bottle containing the leftover varnish should carry a label with the date of its preparation and should be discarded whenever a new batch is prepared.

A good retouch varnish can be prepared by mixing equal parts of UVS varnish with VM&P naphtha. In this concentration, it can be easily sprayed with a spray gun or hand spray.

The UVS varnishes, as well as all of the BEVA products, have been developed and tested by Gustav A. Berger.

- 1 E. Rene de la Rie and Christopher McGlinchey "New Synthetic Resins for Picture Varnishes", IIC Preprints to the Brussels Congress, pp. 168-173.
- 2 Robert L. Feller, "Standards in the Evaluation of Thermoplastic Resins", Preprints of ICOM in Zagreb (1978), pp. 78/16/4.