

2016 American Mosaic Summit Education Program Catalog

Increase the impact of your conference experience by adding workshops and professional seminars to your Conference Registration. **SAMA's Education Committee** has designed the American Mosaic Summit Educational Program to address three distinct areas of our member's development as artists: technical mastery, artistic achievement, and career success.

Register for three or more seminars or workshops and get a **10% discount off your total educational program fees**. Use discount code: **EDU-2016** at checkout. Some workshops also involve a separate materials fee which is included in the course fee. *You must ADD the workshop to your registration to register for a workshop.*

Please pay close attention to the date(s) and time(s) of your workshop session(s). A session with a session number ending in a letter like (3a, 3b, 3c), indicates the workshop is **repeated, not continued**, at each session time. Workshops will be held at the **Hyatt Regency Mission Bay and one off-site location**. There is no limit to the number of workshops you can attend as long as the sessions are not scheduled at the same time. **ONLY Registered Attendees** may attend workshops.

Workshop Waitlist Policy

Sold-Out workshops will accommodate waitlists through the Eventbrite registration system. As seats come available, attendees will be notified via email with a link to register for the open seat.

Please do not contact the SAMA office regarding your placement position on the wait-list. Whether it is 1st in line or 12th in line for the next available seat, we have no way of anticipating the number of cancellations we will receive for the conference, or in which of the several potential sold-out workshops seats could appear.

PLEASE READ WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS FULLY. *If you do not take the time to read the descriptions before registering, you run the risk of investing a great deal of time and money on a session that is not appropriate for your skill level or interests and goals. **Click on the Descriptions link and watch the page expand! It's fun!***

Professional Development Seminars

Broadening the Understanding of the Business of Art. Providing professional artist's with best practices and tips to transition from non-art related field to an art business.

Collaborative Mosaics – Working with Schools, Hospitals, and Community Centers with Jessica Liddell

Session 1A: 8:00am – 12:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Session 1B: 1:00pm – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Building E Room 12, Marina Village Conference Center

All Skill Levels

Price: \$195 (Includes \$20 Materials Fee)

Community projects are a fantastic way for artists to grow professionally and have a positive impact within their communities. Mosaic art lends itself very well to working collaboratively with both children and adults. The goal of this course is to examine the different approaches to designing, fabricating, installing, and finishing community projects.

Organizing a project in a large school or community center can be daunting but instructor Jessica Liddell will take workshop participants through the steps of:

- Finding schools/community centers to partner with;
- Coming up with a budget and securing funding;
- Working with school officials/community organizers to set expectations;
- Choosing and organizing materials;
- Dividing the labor;
- Determining what activities are age-appropriate; and
- Weighing options for fabricating and installing the artwork.

Our workshop will start with an inspiring slide show that will feature some of the many different approaches the instructor has taken with her projects. We will then break into groups and rotate through four different activities designed to put you in the shoes of school children/community members. Workshop participants will get some hands-on experience while learning some fantastic collaborative techniques. Our class will end with a handout review and a Q & A period. Participants will leave with valuable technical and professional information that will help expand their businesses.

Biography

Jessica Gorlin Liddell began making mosaics in 1993 and started her company Bella Mosaic Art in 1997. Her work can be found in private collections and public spaces throughout the country. She specializes in facilitating collaborative projects with children and adults. Since starting her business, she has created mosaics for almost

seventy artist residencies in schools, camps, hospitals, and community centers. Jessica has also been hired by a number of corporations to lead mosaic team-building workshops. She prides herself on creating permanent mosaic and glass installations that are innovative, technically sound, and that foster teamwork and community spirit. Jessica was one of two artists that led the mosaic marathon at the 2015 SAMA Convention in Philadelphia. ~ bellamosaic.com

Power of the Presentation with Bonnie Fitzgerald and Andrea Taylor

Session 2: 6:00pm – 10:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Mariner Point, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$195 (Includes \$15 Materials Fee)

Strong client presentations are key to getting the job, and they can be nerve wracking. In this workshop we'll share proven methods and strategies for pitching and bidding jobs to designers, architects, public art entities, and private clients. Walk through the process from a potential client's initial interest, a "call to artists," to getting a contract! This workshop will benefit anyone who is looking to build their commission work portfolio, or those who want to apply to public art calls. Gain confidence as we de-mystify the steps to creating successful presentations and learn to articulate your creative vision to potential clients. We'll show you how to create professional and meaningful PowerPoint presentations, sample boards, prototypes and much more.

This is a lecture and Q & A workshop. Instructors will have numerous presentation materials to share with students so you can see first-hand unique ways to communicate your vision. In this professional development workshop, students can expect to develop strategies to develop meaningful client relations and master the client "dog and pony show."

Biographies

This workshop will be team-taught. Bonnie Fitzgerald and Andrea Taylor have been recognized as dynamic, fun, and personable instructors who collaborate beautifully in the classroom. With over 30 years combined experience, they bring an extensive knowledge base and expertise in a broad range of mosaic materials and techniques.

Bonnie Fitzgerald designs and fabricates architectural mosaics for a wide variety of clients. She is the founder of Maverick Mosaics, a working mosaic art studio in metropolitan Washington, D.C. Bonnie teaches workshops throughout North America, including the Smithsonian Institution, and leads study tours to destinations in Europe. She is the author of two best-selling mosaic books— *Guide to Mosaic Techniques* (2015) and *300+ Mosaic Tips, Techniques, Templates and Trade Secrets* (2012). Bonnie is a former SAMA Board of Trustees Executive Committee member and a longtime SAMA supporter. ~ bonniefitzgeraldart.com and maverickmosaics.com

Andrea Taylor has been a mosaic artist since 2000, and her mosaic art spans large-scale architectural murals to sculptures and jewelry, but her specialty is animal mosaic portraiture. Her award-winning work has been shown and collected nationally. Her primary professional experience outside of the art world is in media and technical instruction, conducting adult training programs since 1994 and teaching mosaic art since 2004. At last count, she has taught well over 1,000 adult students and countless children in various topics on the art of mosaic. Andrea is a past Executive Board member and Education Committee Chair of SAMA. She has served as Director of Education

and Curriculum Development for Maverick Mosaics Art School and Studio. Andrea owns and operates Lark and Magpie Art Gallery and Studio, a teaching studio and creative destination located in the lakes district of northeast Wisconsin. – taylormosaics.com

Artistic & Technical Development Workshops

Increasing an understanding of general art concepts in relation to mosaic art work. Increasing the technical skill of the mosaic artist through exploration of materials, techniques, and tools.

Color, Value, and Andamento with Sue Giannotti from The Chicago Mosaic School

Session 3A: 8:00am – 12:00pm Wednesday, April 6

Session 3B: 1:00pm – 5:00pm Wednesday, April 6

Location: Mission II, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$210 (Includes \$25 Materials Fee)

Used by artists in all media, an understanding of the elements and principles of art helps create a more impactful and desired outcome, and mosaics are no exception. This workshop focuses on two elements that are key for mosaics and explains these concepts, along with how to incorporate them to make your work more effective. In this fun and fast-paced four-hour workshop, we will cover segments from the Design Fundamentals in Mosaics course at The Chicago Mosaic School, which mosaicists from beginner to advanced have described as very useful. “I wish I would have known this before” and “It literally changed the way I work in mosaic” are two examples of feedback received. Using many hands-on exercises, examples, and demonstrations for each concept, students will learn why, when, and how to use these fundamentals. No drawing skills are necessary, this class will also show simple techniques for seeing and creating the andamento for an object.

Learn how understanding, planning, and experimentation before gluing that first tessera can increase your satisfaction with the end result. Students will leave with the completed exercises and supplies to bring what is taught in the workshop into their own studios. While no mosaic will be made in class, the multiple hands-on exercises will help you better plan for your mosaics. This workshop is for beginning to advanced mosaicists. The instructor will contact students prior to conference with pre-workshop instructions and preparations.

Biography

Sue Giannotti began working in mosaics in 2002 after serendipity brought her to the medium, though it was a SAMA conference that ignited the true spark and her passion for this art form. This is her tenth year as an instructor at The Chicago Mosaic School and she was recently named Director of the Certification Program. She loves teaching and sharing her love for mosaic and its beauty and techniques with adults and kids alike.

She is a prior member of SAMA's Board of Directors and the creator of the SAMA Conference Salon. As founder of Mosaic Opus Studio, she creates commissions as well as art works that are shown in national and international juried exhibitions. ~MosaicOpus.com

Articulating Your Art: A Mosaic Critique Workshop with Andryea Natkin, Sue Giannotti, and Karen Ami from The Chicago Mosaic School

Session 4A: 8:00am – 12:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Session 4B: 1:00pm – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Session 4C: 6:00pm – 10:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Guest Room 1914, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$190 (Includes \$5 Materials Fee)

This workshop is meant for those who are looking for feedback about their work and want to gain insight and direction in their voice and practice. Participants will explore ways to grow in their work and where to go with it, through directed discussion and observation. CMS Core Faculty members Andryea Natkin, Sue Giannotti and CMS Founder Karen Ami will lead small groups of artists in critical discussions about their individual work. This workshop will provide students with suggestions for developing a body of work and building one's portfolio. This is an opportunity for participants to see new directions and possibilities with their work, to develop one's artistic voice, and to grow as an artist. Students will learn more about their individual studio practices and gain confidence in discussing art from an objective point of view. Registered participants will be contacted prior to the conference with information on digital images needed for the discussion. Last minute registrants should arrive with two to three digital images (on a CD or flash) that they feel best represent their work. There will be a short discussion and handouts about preparing artists' statements, marketing your work, and personal artistic development.

Biographies

Andryea Natkin earned her BFA in painting from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago before studying mosaics. Her work has been included in several prestigious juried exhibitions and art publications and she is Co-Director of GoCM, The Gallery of Contemporary Mosaics in Chicago. ~tinypiecesmosaics.com

Founding Faculty member **Sue Giannotti** has been featured in many national and international art exhibitions including *BiblioMosaico* and at the Chapelle Saint-Eman in Chartres, France. She is the Certification Director for CMS and continues to be one of the most in-demand mosaic arts instructors in the US. ~mosaicopus.com

Award-winning artist and CMS Founder **Karen Ami** earned a BFA from School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and Tufts University, an MFA from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Her art practice merges mosaics, drawing, ceramics, and sculpture, exhibiting around the world in galleries and museums. ~chicagomosaicschool.org

Mosaic as Meditation with Kathy Thaden

Session: 5: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Building C Room 1, Marina Village Conference Center

Skill Level: Beginner

Price: \$310 (Includes \$35 Materials Fee)

How do you face a blank slate or still your mind when beginning a new project—seeking ideas and inspiration? Consider this workshop time to tap into your inner muse without the many demands we place on ourselves as we strive to make ART! This tranquil setting will focus on tapping into those artistic impulses, letting go the frenetic pace of creating on deadline or judging your endeavors against those of others. We are each unique, creative beings and sometimes need space to listen to our inner nudges and callings. We will spend some time in relaxed contemplation, listening to a variety of readings about creative expression, exploring sounds, shapes, imagery and colors to help unleash your creative spirit. This intentional time of taking note of your inner voice can benefit beginners as well as mosaicists of any level as we allow the creative practice to unfold. The instructor can offer individuals some basic mosaic instruction (cutting and gluing) but the course emphasis will be on openness to possibilities with the variety of materials at hand as you create your own 11 x 14-inch mosaic. An email will be sent prior to the workshop to suggest tools or other items you might wish to bring. The quiet conversation will expand into shared reflection as we respond to one another's mosaics and insights at the end of the day.

Biography

"I treasure glass and stone fragments, or discards from our "throw-away" consumer culture. It is important to me that nothing be wasted—finding beauty in what was once broken."

A full-time studio artist for 13 years, **Kathy Thaden's** mosaics range from abstract sculpture and landscapes to liturgical art and commissioned works. Kathy has taught mosaic workshops each summer for the past five years at Ghost Ranch in northern New Mexico, and since 2011, has led Mosaics as Meditation retreats in Colorado. Kathy's study of fine arts and degree in commercial art led her to a career in broadcast design—winning numerous honors for her artwork, including seven Emmy Awards. Seeking something more tactile, Kathy's creativity now comes through her mosaics. She is a professional member of SAMA, Episcopal Church and Visual Arts, and serves as President of the Colorado Mosaic Artists. ~thadenmosaics.com

Can The Line Make You a Better Person? The Andamento Conversation Continues with Rachel Sager

Session: 6: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Crown Point, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$360 (Includes \$65 Materials Fee)

Listen to Rachel Sager answer with a resounding, 'yes!' in this uniquely-formatted workshop exploring the philosophies of andamento—our basic language as mosaicists. There can be as many expressions of these

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pathways as there are artists who work in them. Join Rachel as she asks questions beyond the traditional definitions of what is correct or classical. Explore not just the finer points of the rules and when it makes sense to break them, but more theoretical observations of *andamento* as a communication tool. Share in Rachel's theories on choice, free will, and *andamento* as an allegory of Life. Discuss things like intention, cutting, and looking to nature for understanding and, in the process, learn valuable methods to craft more sensitive *andamento*. This workshop is broken into two parts: talking and doing. The first part of day is purposely hands-off to enable you to relax and soak up ideas and images without the pressure of creating.

After lunch, we will begin the "doing" part of the workshop. You will be led through a precise series of exercises revolving around the ideas of size, space, texture, material, angle, and direction. This class is unique in that it disentangles the brain from being distracted by composition and design, and lets you focus on the line in its purest form. As mosaic artists, *andamento* is our most basic language and form of expression. Rachel will lead you through a dynamic breakdown of how to build lines with personality, how to build lines that communicate ideas—in short—how to build lines that can stand on their own. Expect to go home with a study substrate, not a finished composition.

This class would benefit all levels, particularly those looking to refine their voice or expand their appreciation of *andamento* as an instrument of communication. *Special note:* This is an actively evolving workshop. If you have taken a form of it in the past, be assured that Rachel will be throwing new challenges at you and exploring new avenues in the miracle of line-building.

Materials provided: piles of raw material in the forms of sandstone, marble, and glass for those who wish to spend time in cutting specific shapes. For those without tools, there will be plenty of pre-cut tesserae. Instructor will also supply substrates and high-quality thinset mortar, mixing tools, and palette knives.

Students should bring: their own cutting tools: hammer and hardie, glass and tile nippers, and tweezers. There will be piles of raw material in the forms of sandstone, marble, and glass for those who wish to spend time in cutting specific shapes.

Biography

Rachel Sager is an artist, teacher, speaker, writer, working on the cutting edge of the contemporary mosaic fine art movement. Her innovative work has been represented in cities throughout the US and internationally and has been awarded multiple Bests of Show in juried exhibitions. Her *Marcellus Shale Series* stands as a true Pittsburgh success story and her work is collected with passion by private clients and corporations all over the world. Rachel's time spent studying with Italian maestros has shaped her mosaic philosophy, and she brings classical techniques home to the here and now of the present American mosaic movement. Whether she is digging into the earth of her native Pennsylvania or traveling the world as a teacher and speaker, her mission to build the line in mosaic continues to inspire new generations of mosaicists. www.rachelsagermosaics.com

3 Cs: Creative Process, Color Theory and Composition with Deb Aldo

Session 7: 6:00pm – 10:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Bayview I, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

Visit AmericanMosaics.org for more information and to register for the Conference.

All Skill Levels**Price: \$186 (Includes \$6 Materials Fee)**

CREATIVE PROCESS (C1) – For many beginners, as well as advanced mosaic artists unfamiliar with the creative process, understanding and summoning creativity can be anything but fun. This class is geared toward anyone who wants to learn how to generate ideas more efficiently, on demand! I will show you how to initiate the process moving from concept to finished product—including prepping, formulating, and growing your vision or ideas. A set of exercises will help you get geared up and moving forward during this seminar and in future projects.

COLOR THEORY (C2) – Learn to understand how and why color elicits a response when used knowledgeably. Using a color wheel, the basics of color theory will be explained, and several pieces of art will be examined and analyzed to see how color was utilized. Then you will create your own unique combinations—with iterative exercises to help you pick colors that coordinate with and complement your work.

COMPOSITION (C3) – To complete this comprehensive seminar you will gain a deeper understanding of basic design and layout, using specific methods and elements to create a better composition. A good understanding of all three Cs will take your work to a higher level, adding more substance, depth, and story to your pieces. It is amazingly fun and productive, so be prepared to have an explosive learning experience!

Much of this class will be lecture but there will be intermittent exercises in creating, using color combos with paper swatches, as well as sketches that create basic compositions. This will easily translate to mosaic materials in similar colors and structure. Learn depth and detail and create works that better explain your chosen subject matter, whatever that may be.

Materials provided: Scotch tape, plain paper, color theory poster, color wheel, color swatches, composition layouts, creative process handout.

Students should bring: pen, pencil, a range of eight, colored pencils, lined or unlined (preferred) standard-sized notebook for sketches, exercises, and notes.

Biography

Debora Aldo has been creating art for decades and has been working in mosaic since 1997. She was selected as a CT state certified teaching artist in 2009. Debora has a BA in Art/Illustration and graduated with high honors with a BS in Landscape Architecture/Horticulture. Her work has been exhibited nationally, most recently at the Slater Museum in Norwich, summer 2014, and the Museum of Glass in Tacoma, WA, at the SAMA conference in 2013.

Debora's work is in private collections across North America, Australia, Europe, and Mexico. As principal designer for Pietre Dure Design, she works with landscape architects, architects, home owners, and collectors, creating sculptural installations and fine art for private, corporate, hospitality and healthcare settings, and schools across the US. Debora has studied with Maggy Howarth, Verdiano Marzi, KokoMosaico, and Sophie Drouin, among others. ~pietreduredesign.com

Tactile and Temporal Textures with Deb Aldo

Session 8: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Bayview I, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

Skill Level: Intermediate

Price: \$334 (Includes \$39 Materials Fee)

The goal of this intermediate session is to help students observe sources of inspiration allowing for the creation of their own signature textural and temporal andamento. Students who have some basic mosaic-cutting and fitting experience will boost their know-how by learning to analyze why they are drawn to a particular work of art by examining and “unpacking” the compositions and andamento of a variety of mosaic works. This intense observation will allow them to assess how the andamento is used to create a mood or effect, as well as some basics on composition. Students should bring one printed or emailed example of a work they want to deconstruct. This class will allow them to see in a new way, and to create texture that will enhance the character of their mosaics by utilizing several methods for creating tactile textures based on both a presentation and hands-on work. Each student will execute a set of two samples based on four possible options—spiked and smooth, bumpy and waving, radial, chaotic, and calm. These dynamic and dimensional samples can be used as a visual reference for future works. The materials provided will be affixed to a cement board substrate with thinset. There will be explanations and instruction provided to the group at large, after which each student will receive individual attention. The last part of the class will be devoted to a group discussion and critique, if requested.

Materials provided: vitreous glass, high-fired ceramic, pebbles and stones, cement board substrate, thinset, gloves and spatula for mixing and spreading thinset.

Students need to provide: their own nippers, tweezers or other preferred mosaic tools, as well as a camera, notebook, and pen or pencil for notes.

Biography

Debora Aldo has been creating art for decades and has been working in mosaic since 1997. She was selected as a CT state certified teaching artist in 2009. Debora has a BA in Art/Illustration and graduated with high honors with a BS in Landscape Architecture/Horticulture. Her work has been exhibited nationally, most recently at the Slater Museum in Norwich, summer 2014, and the Museum of Glass in Tacoma, WA, at the SAMA conference in 2013.

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Personal Mosaic Mandalas with Dianne Sonnenberg

Session 9: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Guest Room 1916, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Price: \$345 (Includes \$50 Materials Fee)

Through a combination of instruction and exercises, participants will draw their own mandala design and create a personal 12"-round mosaic mandala. Mandalas are round geometric designs, typically with individual, spiritual, or religious significance.

We will create our individual mandalas using stained glass, glass nuggets, and glass tile on a prepared 12"-MDF round substrate. Participants may choose to bring a "focal point" for the center of their creations, and any additional materials they might like to include. Most participants will be able to finish during the class, but will be able to take their materials to finish at home.

Dianne will present a brief overview of the fascinating subject of sacred geometry and mandala art in a slideshow during the class, but the focus of this class will be primarily on the creation of each participant's personal mosaic mandala. Participants will gain the skills and ability to create a variety of beautiful geometric round designs using the techniques learned in this workshop.

Materials provided: substrate, adhesive, materials

Students should bring: wheeled mosaic nippers, tweezers, apron

Biography

Dianne Sonnenberg is an internationally-recognized mosaic artist from Austin, Texas. Her work has won numerous awards, including the Best Architectural Mosaic award from MAI in 2010 for *Ocean(egg)raphy*. Dianne has taught mosaic art and facilitated community projects since 2005. Since 2012, she has been teaching in venues across the US and Canada. Dianne has a particular interest in sacred geometry, and has created an extensive mosaic mandala series. Her mandalas have been featured in the *Mandala Page-a-Day Calendar* by Workman Publishing. ~DianneSonnenberg.com

Building a Landscape with Color and Texture with Laura Rendlen

Session 10: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Guest Room 1918, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Price: \$345 (Includes \$50 Materials Fee)

This workshop is for artists who want to explore a variety of mosaic techniques to create a representational landscape utilizing different traditional materials—e.g., glass, stone, shells, and metal. Beginning with a short

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presentation and exercises to illustrate general principles, the discussion considers perspective foreground and background, and light source highlights and shadows. The beauty of this workshop is that the artists get to surround themselves and play with a variety of tesserae to complete their mosaic. The workshop emphasizes a hands-on exploration of mosaic techniques which allows artists to discover different textures, color combinations, and ways to transition and form relationships with mixed materials. Throughout the workshop, individual attention and tips are provided to help with the technical aspects of mosaics and to guide the successful completion of each project.

Biography

Laura Rendlen's aesthetic and style for mosaic art is representational. She creates environments that capture the essence of a place. Through vivid color and soft expression she conveys the intangibles in nature, particularly wind, light, and movement.

Laura earned her BFA in sculpture from Kansas City Art Institute and spent 25 years as a scenic painter. She also has been published in several books, blogs, and magazines including *Mosaic Fine Art Portraits* and *Mosaic Art Now* magazine. Laura has been included four times in MAI exhibitions and in 2012, she received the prestigious MAI Juror's Choice award. ~LRFinemosaics.com

Go with the Flow with Laura Rendlen

Session 11: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Guest Room 1918, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Price: \$345 (Includes \$50 Materials Fee)

This workshop will explore the flow of water depicted in mosaics. By concentrating on water, students will be learning materials, layering techniques, and the use of different andamento (flow) to form their 'waterscape.' Students will pick one of four layouts for their landscape. From there, we will delve into creating a 3-dimensional substrate.

We will review the direct method and the many ways to create texture, color combinations, and means to transition and form relationships with mixed materials within a mosaic. Then, each individual will choose their own color scheme and materials from the myriad of supplies provided for this class. Students will discover a range of mosaic techniques to create the many aspects and properties of water in nature. There will be discussions about color, light, movement, and reflections as well as individual attention throughout the workshop.

Biography

Laura Rendlen's aesthetic and style for mosaic art is representational. She creates environments that capture the essence of a place. Through vivid color and soft expression she conveys the intangibles in nature, particularly wind, light, and movement.

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Discovering Opus and Andamento: Mindful Hand-Cutting and Laying Mosaics with Precision with Bonnie Fitzgerald and Andrea Taylor

Session 12: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Mariner Point, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$325 (Includes \$30 Materials Fee)

This workshop will show you how to take old-school, classical mosaic techniques and transform them to fit your contemporary artistic needs. We will review the characteristics of the many styles of classic and contemporary opus and hone our cutting and laying techniques. You will learn to become skilled at “seeing the next cut” in order to cut and place each tessera precisely. Become enlightened about combining andamento techniques for maximum effect and become the “master of your materials.” In this workshop, we will be using basic hand tools and art glass as our medium—there is no need for power tools or hammer and hardie. The cutting skills taught are transferrable to other materials. Students will select two different exercises using instructor-provided patterns and instructors will guide each student.

This session should particularly benefit those who feel their work has hit a plateau or is missing professional polish. Students will create two small studies using a selection of design patterns provided by the instructors with the materials and time frame in mind. Find confidence as you master precision cutting and laying. An earlier version of this workshop was sold out at its last offering at SAMA, and to this day, Bonnie and Andrea receive comments from past students declaring it was a corner-turning, game-changer for their artistic development.

Biography

This workshop will be team-taught. Bonnie Fitzgerald and Andrea Taylor have been recognized as dynamic, fun, and personable instructors who collaborate beautifully in the classroom. With over 30 years combined experience, they bring an extensive knowledge base and expertise in a broad range of mosaic materials and techniques.

Bonnie Fitzgerald designs and fabricates architectural mosaics for a wide variety of clients. She is the founder of Maverick Mosaics, a working mosaic art studio in metropolitan Washington, D.C. Bonnie teaches workshops throughout North America, including the Smithsonian Institution, and leads study tours to destinations in Europe. She is the author of two best-selling mosaic books— *Guide to Mosaic Techniques* (2015) and *300+ Mosaic Tips, Techniques, Templates and Trade Secrets* (2012). Bonnie is a former SAMA Board of Trustees Executive Committee member and a longtime SAMA supporter. ~bonniefitzgeraldart.com and maverickmosaics.com

Andrea Taylor has been a mosaic artist since 2000, and her mosaic art spans large-scale architectural murals to sculptures and jewelry, but her specialty is animal mosaic portraiture. Her award-winning work has been shown and collected nationally. Her primary professional experience outside of the art world is in media and technical instruction, conducting adult training programs since 1994 and teaching mosaic art since 2004. At last count, she

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has taught well over 1,000 adult students and countless children in various topics on the art of mosaic. Andrea is a past Executive Board member and Education Committee Chair of SAMA. She has served as Director of Education and Curriculum Development for Maverick Mosaics Art School and Studio. Andrea owns and operates Lark and Magpie Art Gallery and Studio, a teaching studio and creative destination located in the lakes district of northeast Wisconsin. ~taylormosaics.com

Polymer Clay Mosaic Mandalas with Laurie Mika

Session 13A: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Monday, April 4, 2016

Session 13B: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Mission II, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$320 (Includes \$25 Materials Fee)

Mosaic Mandalas is a class where students will be guided through the process of using polymer clay as a background material in which to embed and attach glass tesserae, jewelry pieces, beads, and millefiori. The goal of this workshop is to familiarize students with the medium of polymer clay and how it can be combined with traditional mosaic materials to create beautiful pieces of art. In this hands-on workshop, students will learn how to condition clay, roll out slabs, rubber stamp, paint, gold leaf, and embed the clay. A variety of mixed-media techniques for altering the substrates will also be emphasized—including rubber stamping with ink and using stencils. The structure of the class allows a demo of each step with students practicing immediately afterwards. This approach promotes a clear understanding of each step in the process. All of the techniques that will be covered have crossover possibilities that students can use in their own mosaic work. While this class focuses on creating a mandala (from the Sanskrit word meaning “circle,” representing unity and wholeness) using more of an assemblage approach, all of the techniques are the same ones used for creating individual tesserae. Participants will leave class with a completed mosaic mandala that is adhered to a beautifully-painted substrate ready to hang on the wall. This session should be particularly beneficial to those who wish to gain a greater understanding of how to work with polymer clay and how it can open up a whole new world of creative possibilities when combined with traditional mosaic materials.

Biography

Laurie Mika is an artist, author, and instructor. Over the last two decades, Laurie’s mixed media mosaic and assemblage work has evolved into an original and easily recognizable style. Her unique approach combines handmade polymer clay tiles with tesserae, beads, jewelry pieces, charms, hand-cast resin pieces, and found objects. She feels very fortunate to be able to combine her love of travel and passion for art with teaching at art retreats. Laurie’s work has been published in numerous magazines and books and has been included in over a half-dozen MAI exhibitions. She received a Best of Show 2-D award in Mesa, Arizona. Laurie has appeared on both HGTV’s, *That’s Clever* and on DIY’s *Craft Lab*. Laurie’s own book, *Mixed Media Mosaics*, was published by North Light Books in 2007. ~MikaArts.com

Mosaic Foundation Intensive with The Chicago Mosaic School Faculty

Session 14A: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Session 14B : 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Mission I, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

Skill Level: Beginner/Intermediate

Price: \$355 (Includes \$60 Materials Fee)

The Chicago Mosaic School brings its programming to SAMA with this solid foundation course for novice students. In this acclaimed CMS workshop, participants will gain skills, learn about tools, materials, and process to gain confidence to pursue their mosaic practice. The Core Faculty of CMS will cover approaches to cutting, appropriate adhesives, substrates, design/layout, and andamento. Students will be introduced to a variety of fundamental mosaic concepts and will complete two projects in this eight-hour intensive, exploring both contemporary and traditional approaches. Participants will be encouraged to experiment with color and texture to experience the endless possibilities of mosaic art. This workshop is a requirement for the CMS Certification Program and is being offered specially for SAMA members.

Biography

The Instructors of CMS are all professionally trained and are often themselves practicing artists, offering students at all levels a high level of expertise in a multitude of techniques, materials, and approaches. To find out more about our instructors, go to ~chicagomosaicschool.com

Sandcasting in San Diego! with Gwyn Kaitis

Session 15: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Guest Room 1914, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

Skill Level: Beginner/Intermediate

Price: \$322 (Includes \$27 Materials Fee)

Learn how to sandcast in sunny, sandy, San Diego! This class will guide students through the process of sandcasting a mosaic work. Sandcasting is a process by which mosaic tesserae are embedded in sculpted sand molds and then cast in concrete. It is a variation of reverse mosaic making. An easy-to-follow demonstration will provide students with the foundations necessary to create their own mosaic which will be finished during this class. Students will learn how to design, embed, and cast a mosaic during this hands-on workshop. We will work with smalti, sheet glass, shells, and other small objects.

Students should bring: glass tile nippers and old clothes or an apron as we will get dirty in this class!

Biography

Gwyn Kaitis is a Chicago-area mosaic artist whose work has been exhibited in MAI five times, winning a Juror's Choice Award in 2014. She has been teaching mosaic art both nationally and internationally for more than ten

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years. Gwyn has coordinated the SOFA Chicago demonstrations and exhibitions for SAMA for the past five years and is past Vice President of the SAMA Board of Directors. She has written numerous articles on mosaic art and her work incorporates nature themes and the use of natural materials in mosaic art. ~gwynkaitis.com

Tools and Cutting Techniques with Sonia King

Session 16: 8:00am – 12:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Bayview II, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$190

Do you want to improve your cutting skills? Interested in the ergonomics of cutting/nipping? Want to understand how various tools work and which are best for shaping differing materials? Struggling with tricky cuts like concave curves? Or want to use the hammer and hardie safely and effectively? This class is for you, whether you're just starting out or working as a full-time mosaicist.

Understanding how your tools work and the ways various materials break offers you expanded creative choices as well as a reduction in wasted material and time. Correct positioning when doing repetitive actions promotes an injury-free life in mosaic. A wide selection of tools will be shown, discussed, and demonstrated on a big screen so all can see. Tips and tricks and cutting strategies will be shared. Questions and audience interaction will be encouraged. Individual coaching will be offered as time permits so bring your tools and some materials if you like.

Tools covered will include side-biter nippers, compound-gear nippers, wheeled cutters, hammers and hardies, hand-scorers, and running pliers. Materials covered will include vitreous glass, smalti, marble, stained glass, unglazed ceramic, glazed ceramic tile (both frost-proof and bathroom), and china.

This session should particularly benefit those who want to improve their cutting skills and ergonomics while wasting less material. We will not be outsmarted by tile!

Biography

Sonia King's award-winning mosaic art is exhibited internationally and represented in private, public, and museum collections. Her mosaic, *Depthfinder*, is the first by an American to enter the permanent collection of contemporary mosaic art at the Museo d'Arte della Città di Ravenna, Italy. *VisionShift*, a large-scale, site-specific mosaic was recently installed in the Dallas Arts District. Sonia is a Senior Tutor at West Dean College in England and instituted the mosaic program at the Creative Arts Center of Dallas. She is a founding member and President Emeritus of SAMA and past Vice President of the Associazione Internazionale Mosaicisti Contemporanei in Italy. Sonia's work has been featured on HGTV's *Modern Masters* and in numerous books. She teaches advanced workshops around the world and wrote the bestselling book *Mosaic Techniques & Traditions* from Sterling Publishing. ~mosaicworks.com

Lights, Camera, Mosaics! The Fine Art of Producing a Video with Suzanne MacNeil

Session 17A: 6:00pm – 10:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Session 17B: 1:00pm – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Bayview II, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$205 (Includes \$25 Materials Fee)

You've got the most amazing tip or technique to share with fellow mosaic artists or you want to tell the story behind a beautiful piece of art you've just finished. You decide to shoot a video about your work to post on your social media networks and hope for positive feedback from viewers and/or clients.

It is easy for anyone and everyone to produce and post a video with today's at-your-fingertips-technology. As a viewer, you have likely watched a mosaics video posted on social media and wondered why you didn't learn the tip or technique you hoped to master. The reason you were disappointed might be because producing a video is as much of an art as creating a mosaic and much more than just hitting 'record' on a cell phone.

When you shoot a close-up explaining how to cut your tesserae, or the placement of the andamento, or how to prep the substrate—were your shots in focus? Did you use your best shots? Do you know how to get the best shots? What about the audio? Did you use an external microphone or did you cross your fingers hoping that your camera/phone captured clean audio for maximum effect? And did your edit session go well?

During this interactive class, we'll go step-by-step through a pre-produced and edited video to learn to implement the production values necessary to achieve a well-constructed video that will help your viewers raise their mosaic standards and help you sell your art or product.

Participants are required to bring their camera to the class, whether it's a cell phone, video camera or DSLR. We will go through exercises to learn how to pre-produce your video ensuring you get all the shots you need, how to frame each shot properly, have a stress-free edit session, the do's and don'ts of using music, and even what to wear on-camera. For the brave few who have already posted a video, we will do a class critique (not criticism) to learn what you did well and what can be improved. For those who would like to submit their video for review, please email Suzanne at glassyeyedmosaics@gmail.com.

Using her 35 years of production experience, Suzanne will tailor this session to benefit all mosaic artists. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned veteran, are currently posting videos or considering adding videos to promote your business, the best practices you learn during this class will help you produce compelling and visually-interesting videos to market you and your art.

Biography

Suzanne MacNeil is an award-winning, Emmy-nominated, former television news anchor, reporter, producer, writer, and host. After 15 years in the news business, MacNeil moved behind the camera in 1993, producing shows for

numerous networks including HGTV, CBS, PBS, The Travel Channel, CMT and GAC. In addition, she has produced non-broadcast projects for Johnson & Johnson, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Vanderbilt University, and many other corporate clients. She has also worked in corporate communications for Nissan Americas, Goodwill Industries of Middle Tennessee, and the Vinyl Siding Institute in Washington, D.C. In 2013, MacNeil moved to Europe for her husband's work assignment and now lives in The Hague, Netherlands. She took a Delft Blue mosaics class through the American School of The Hague's adult education program and it was the start of her mosaic journey. ~glassyeyedmosaics.com

Base and Sculpture-Making for Mosaics with Sharra Frank

Session 18: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Bayview III, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$350 (Includes \$55 Materials Fee)

In this workshop, students will learn Sharra's innovative methods for creating customized bases and sculptures for fine art mosaics. This workshop shares an in-depth overview of Sharra's favorite sculpting products, tools, and techniques that have been used in her privately- and publicly-commissioned mosaic artwork and teaching since 2006.

Students will experiment with the effective techniques and products introduced to create their own one-of-a-kind mosaic substrates. This workshop will be part demo, lecture and hands-on practice. Information is shared through lecture, video, and live demos.

Topics in this workshop include:

- Sculpted wall panels;
- Free-standing sculpture;
- Delicately-sculpted extensions (examples: branches and stems);
- Concrete-free material options and advantages;
- Lightweight strategies;
- Hanging and display options;
- Sharra's favorite artist-friendly sculpting materials; and
- Sharra's favorite sculpting tools.

Students will create two, sculpted, mosaic substrates utilizing a selection of quality materials. One substrate will be a sculpted wall panel (approximately 12" x 18"), and the other will be a free-standing sculpture (approximately 10" x 8" x 8"). Sample projects—sculpted pears, shrines and butterflies—will be available for students to experience and model their own projects from.

This workshop will focus on the topics and challenges of creating bases, sculptures, and armatures for mosaics. While the instruction will not cover mosaic techniques, it will address the importance of anticipating and preparing for the design and mosaic application.

Time will be allowed for Q & A, design coaching, personal feedback, and open studio work time. This class will particularly benefit those who are interested in greatly expanding their personal “tool box” and learning a wide range of professional options available when creating their own custom surfaces for their mosaic artwork.

Concrete will not be used in this workshop.

Biography

Sharra Frank is an established mosaic artist in Minneapolis, MN. She started her mosaic work in 2002 while an art student at the University of Minnesota. She began working at her kitchen table and created small pieces to sell in local flower shops. With each small success, her artistic vision grew and so did the scale and intricacy of her work. After making the leap to a private studio, she continued creating the intricate, whimsical, and inspiring mosaic mirrors, sculptures, and panels that are her signature. During this same time, Sharra made the transition to being a full-time artist and has never looked back. She has created several large-scale public art installations in the Twin Cities area and has worked with designers and clientele from New York to California. Sharra teaches advanced mosaic classes from her Minneapolis studio and since 2012, has also offered online mosaic classes through her website. ~ SharraFrank.com

Mosaic Portrait Techniques with Carlos Gonzalez Garcia

Session 19 : 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Building C Room 8, Marina Village Conference Center

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Price: \$295 (Includes \$20 Materials Fee)

This workshop will teach the different techniques that can be used in making mosaic portraits and the rules that are employed to get the best results. Many mosaic artists have learned that cutting tesserae in glass or marble to create areas of the face—eyes, mouth, and nose—is the hardest thing to do in mosaics. This mosaic portrait workshop allows you to learn the structure of the andamento so you can use the same technique on other mosaics in the future. We will utilize a modern portrait technique that I learned while studying abroad in Italy with the Scuola Mosaicista del Friuli in 2001-2004.

The student will learn to visualize the portrait in a different way, dividing the light and dark areas to implement the rules of the technique and learning how to draw andamento guidelines over the image to get the best flow of construction. These guidelines will help you organize the cuts you will need to make when starting your mosaic and can be applied to any other images in future projects. Experienced mosaic artists can look forward to creating something different and unique with this modern technique. Deciding what colors to use for your portrait can be a big challenge and this workshop can prepare you for it by pointing out the kinds of tones commonly used.

This lecture/workshop will consist of exercises with paper and pencil, a guide in color harmony, and examples of techniques to use for a mosaic. Most importantly, students will learn to see mosaics in a different way and use certain rules to make a mosaic look the way you visualize it from the start.

Students will leave with a completed portrait on paper using a modern mosaic technique applied, and are encouraged to bring their own image to work with or an image will be provided by the instructor.

Biography

Carlos Gonzalez Garcia is a mosaic artist who teaches in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico. After graduating from the Scuola Mosaicista del Friuli in Italy (2001-2004), he worked at Mosaicos Venecianos de Mexico (Kolorines) and has completed independent mosaic projects as well as commissioned pieces. His love of mosaics has inspired him to offer more classes in the hopes of passing along his passion. ~[Website](#)

Fused Glass Mosaics with Wesley Wong

Session 20: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Building E Room 12, Marina Village Conference Center

Skill Level: Intermediate

Price: \$300 (Includes \$25 Materials Fee)

In this hands-on workshop, you will work with a variety of fused-glass materials such as compatible opaque, transparent, and dichroic glass; stringers; glass paints; powders; and liquid gold. The class will begin with a brief introduction of the materials, the fusing process, types of kilns, and examples of incorporating fused elements into mosaics. Students will be provided with a choice of patterns, and will make a 6 x 6-inch fused-mosaic tile. We will demonstrate several methods of cutting, assembling, and layering the tesserae, and provide suggestions for creating andamento based on the design. Basic glass-cutting skills are highly recommended. We will cover the basic firing schedule and how to operate the kiln. This workshop will benefit those students who would like to expand their mosaic skills as well as explore the world of fusible glass. This class provides a new approach to glass-on-glass mosaics that can be turned into functional art, and can open new possibilities for combining fused-glass elements in mosaics with details, dimension, movement and texture to enhance your artwork. Students will be provided with numerous handouts. Projects will be fired overnight and will be available for pick-up the following day.

Students should bring: glass cutter, breaking plier, scissors, wheeled mosaic nippers, tweezers, safety glasses, ruler, Sharpie pen, pencil, and notepad

Biography

Wesley Wong is an award-winning artist who designs and produces custom glass art from his studio in San Jose, California. His passion for glass started in 1981 when working with stained glass, which eventually led him to mosaics and fused glass. Wesley's work features lots of bright colors and intricate patterns and has been exhibited in many juried glass and mosaic shows throughout the US. Wesley enjoys sharing his glass knowledge with other artists and teaches glass workshops through his studio, at the Institute of Mosaic Art and the Stained Glass Garden in Berkeley, CA, and at the annual glass convention in Las Vegas. He is a member of the Association of Stained

Glass Lamp Artists (ASGLA), SAMA, and Contemporary Mosaic Art (CMA). He has written articles for *Glass Patterns Quarterly* magazine, and is a regular contributor to the ASGLA annual stained glass lamps calendar. ~glasstastique.com

[EXPAND]

Let the Water Flow: Mosaic Fountains with Mark Brody

Session 21: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Building C Room 1, Marina Village Conference Center

Skill Level: Beginner/Intermediate

Price: \$325 (Includes \$50 Materials Fee)

Water can add an exciting new dimension to any mosaic with its beauty, sound, and movement. But it can add a whole new case of serious regret if you're not using the proper adhesive, tubing, or pump. In this workshop, we will discuss water fountain concepts such as containment, lift, and fall of water. You will create a water-tight, self-cycling fountain with pump and basin on a vertical substrate, which can be placed in any garden room, porch, or fence (climate considered). A variety of mosaic layouts for different water pathways will be discussed and commenced, but the full mosaic portion will not be completed during this class. Good news, however! The project will be sized for doable return shipping. Using photos, "science-y" demos, and ongoing Q & A dialogue, the instructor will describe many other fountain possibilities. This workshop should particularly benefit those who have always wanted to combine their unique mosaic style with the pleasant effects of water.

Biography

Mark Brody has been building his mosaic workshop repertoire for the past 15 years. His interest in mosaic began with the construction of his adobe house in New Mexico, brick-by-brick, like any mosaic. He found the most creative part of the entire construction process was the custom tiling he added to plumbing fixtures. However, the beauty of these functional surfaces is only as strong as what lies beneath. His prior experience installing sinks and showers made the move toward creating water features a natural progression.

Making good use of his degrees in Sculpture and Education from Lewis and Clark College, Mark has been teaching mosaic in Pacific NW schools and art centers for 12 years. In 2015, Timber Press published his how-to book, *Mosaic Garden Projects*, which walks readers through 25 different outdoor mosaic projects, including two fountains. All of his 3D mosaic training has come from these SAMA workshops, merci! ~markbrodyart.com

Precision-Cutting Stained Glass for Mosaic with Jennifer Kuhns

Session 22: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Mission III, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

Skill Level: Beginner/Intermediate

Price: \$315 (Includes \$40 Materials Fee)

This course is designed for the practicing mosaic artist interested in incorporating stained glass with control and deliberation. We will begin with an overview of the tools used to cut glass, correct maintenance, positioning, and technique. During the first half of the day, we will address cutting straight lines and mild curves, and will discuss the various types of glass and how the approach changes with different textures of glass.

During the second half of the class, students will be introduced to alternating curves, cutting concave shapes, and will attempt more challenging shapes such as a bird and a circle. The class project will be a small, framed, glass-on-glass mosaic to take home (not grouted). Q & A and a PowerPoint presentation featuring various ways to use precision-cutting in mosaic will follow as time allows.

Materials provided: stained glass, substrate for project, adhesive, design patterns, and a printed handout.

Students should bring: their own glass-cutting tools or purchase them in class. (Tools include a glass scorer, wheeled glass nippers, breaker-grozier pliers and running pliers. Students will need to communicate with the instructor to make sure they have correct tools.)

Biography

Jennifer Kuhns has been creating fine art mosaics for 15 years. Her work ranges from strikingly realistic to decorative, highly-designed mosaic installations. Jennifer has been featured in many exhibits and galleries throughout the country, and works primarily with stained glass, carefully shaping each piece for assemblage into stylized, exquisite mosaic art. Her public art and community projects demonstrate a rare ability to engage, educate, and create community with all ages and socio-economic groups. She also creates custom mosaics for corporate and private clients. Jennifer lives and works on a small farm in rural western WA, and teaches a weekly mosaic class for at-risk teens, in addition to offering workshops for mosaic artists in the Pacific Northwest region. ~jkmosaic.com

Fit, Finish, and Framing: Construct Refined, Framed Substrates for Your Mosaic Artworks with Sharon Plummer

Session 23: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5th

Location: Building C Room 8, Marina Village Conference Center

All Skill Levels

Price: \$325 (Includes \$50 Materials Fee)

This is a hands-on workshop to learn to create beautiful and sustainable substrate foundations and framing techniques for 2-D wall-hung mosaic artworks. The workshop will resolve the following issues and questions:

- What advance plans can I make to ensure attractive and appropriate finishing and framing for my mosaic?
- How to solve this unfortunate situation: “OH NO . . . I finished my mosaic but it has ugly, rough edges and a grungy-looking back! Now what do I do!”
- What are the options to properly and securely hang my finished mosaic?

Students will work with a variety of materials and methods to ensure that the high quality of their mosaic art continues to be displayed throughout all details of the fit, finish, and framing of their artwork. We will start with a focus on creating solid, sustainable, and inexpensive substrates; move on to experimenting with types of edge-finishing and framing; exploring methods to create attractive substrate backsides; and conclude with installing different types of hanging hardware. Students will leave the workshop with a toolbox of concepts, designs, and experience in multiple techniques to put the finishing touches on mosaic artworks for an overall polished and professional appearance.

Students will construct six, different finished-edge foundation panels to take home that have pre-installed hardware for hanging and are ready to mosaic:

1. Cradled wood panel;
2. Float frame panel;
3. Picture frame panel;
4. Tesserae-edged panel;
5. Sculpted epoxy-edged panel; and
6. Wood moulding-edged panel.

Materials provided: all materials and additional tools needed

Students should bring: wheeled glass nippers, studio apron

Biography

Sharon Plummer's eye for detail and a perfectionist's penchant for ensuring quality in every aspect of her artwork has led her to a careful focus on the final fit, finish, and framing of her mosaic projects. Technical and engineering challenges delight Sharon and she happily examines options for the best solutions when questions about structure, materials, and sustainability arise.

Some of Sharon's more unusual projects that have tested her engineering skills include the creation of a wall-mounted mosaic headboard for the ABC television program *Extreme Home Makeover*, and the design and fabrication of a 12 x 6-foot mosaic mural, with multiple sculpted and 3-D elements, for the Memory Wall in the new all-mosaic park in Houston developed by the iconic Orange Show Center for Visionary Art. She is known for her vibrant and cheerful mosaics, designed to add beauty to the environment and joy to those who experience them.

Sharon served as a Trustee on the SAMA Board 2007-2014 and chaired the host committee for SAMA's 2014 Mosaic Summit. She is the artist-owner of Plum Art Mosaics, a founding member of MOSAICO-Houston, has been involved with many community mosaic projects, and teaches mosaic workshops in Houston,

TX. ~mosaicohouston.com

Creating Abstracts – Facilitating Movement and Flow with David Jarvinen

Session 24: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Mariner Point, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$320 (Includes \$45 Materials Fee)

Our goal in this workshop is to facilitate a connection between the mind, body, and the mosaic. We believe in the Montessori approach to learning—using materials and original concepts we will explore abstract mosaics by utilizing findings, wire, smalti, glass, and beads, as well as many other intriguing materials. Participants will gain insight into techniques and applications that can help decision-making when creating. These techniques will easily cross over into other mediums and styles. In this extremely hands-on workshop, we will work to create a 6 x 12-inch mosaic abstract on Wedi Board. Expect to learn nipping, fitting, and embedding techniques relative to your art.

Biography

David Jarvinen comes to mosaics through the world of ceramic tile and stone design and installation. With over 30 years in the contracting industry, he merged his talents with clay artists in the mid-90s and through that collaborative process, his interest in mosaics grew. Appreciating the importance of technical knowledge, David has hosted, for at least 15 years, a variety of mosaic workshops utilizing ceramic and porcelain tiles, glass tiles, and stained glass to create wonderful art! David's favorite way to create is mixed-media mosaics! This type of mosaicking produces endless textures, contrasts, interest, and color variations that occur when combining mixed media. Virtually any material is fair game! ~mosaicguys.com

Breaking Barriers and Conquering your Mosaic Walls with Kim Wozniak

Session 25: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Monday, April 4, 2016

Location: Mission I, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

Skill Level: Beginner

Price: \$335 (Includes \$40 Materials Fee)

Through a combination of lecture and hands-on art, this interactive mosaic experience will assist the beginner mosaicist in finding their own voice, while providing the intermediate and advanced level artist with tips and techniques for escaping the black hole of creative block. The hands-on portion of this workshop will challenge you to grow through creative experimentation, and discover the beauty and possibilities in our “mistakes.” Learn to let go of “the rules” and other “bad” behavior that holds you back and move into a “just do it” attitude. Each student will be encouraged to share their own personal creative challenges, and through interactive discussion, we will explore the

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barriers that confront artists and techniques that will allow you conquer the walls that hold back your creativity and talent.

In this one-day workshop you will begin to identify the barriers of creative resistance. We will experiment with materials, color, texture and techniques via an exercise designed to introduce you to new possibilities and propel your work to a new level. Everyone will take home a project created in the workshop that will serve as inspiration and help keep you motivated.

Students must provide their own tools: minimum requirements are wheeled nippers and spatula.

Biography

Owner of WitsEnd Mosaics and Smalti.com, **Kim Wozniak** is trained in art and architectural design, and has found her voice in mosaics. After leaving the corporate world, Kim reclaimed her creative spirit by combining her love of art and building materials. Her rule-breaking style was quickly recognized by the mosaic community and has led her to create both public and private installations throughout the US, and her fine art mosaics are exhibited internationally. Kim was one of three Americans representing the US in Ravenna, Italy, at the prestigious 2011 juried biennial exhibition: *RavennaMosaico – Works of the World*. She has studied the medium of mosaics with masters from Italy, Mexico, and the US. Her work has been featured in several publications including *Mosaic Art Today*, *Breakout*, *Mosaic Art Abstracts* and many others. ~smalti.com

Ready, (Thin)Set, Go! Developing Your Fine Mortar Skills with Kelley Knickerbocker and Erin Pankratz-Smith

Session 26: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Bayview I, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$310 (Includes \$15 Materials Fee)

Through lecture, demo, visual aids, and samples Kelley and Erin will demystify the use of cement bonding mortar (thinset) as an adhesive AND introduce students to the concept of thinset as a design element as integral as tesserae. Students will learn to effectively use a small trowel to spread/guide/manage thinset, to work cleanly, to utilize different approaches for adhering tesserae, to tint thinset, to blend and layer tinted thinset, to mark, scratch through, and texturize the surface of thinset for visual effects, to execute Erin's unique freestanding tesserae technique using perfected multicolored "blobs," and how Kelley builds up, embeds, and tips tesserae for sculptural and light-handling effects. All without getting your hands dirty (students will not construct an actual product in class)! Other tips will include uses for tinted thinset slurries, thinset as tesserae (what?!?!), designing open space into a mosaic composition, smoothing the surface of open areas of thinset, making substrates from thinset and mesh, and much more. Bring your pad and pen to take notes on the lectures and demos, and bring that niggling thinset question for the Q & A session. This workshop is geared to interest and inform all levels of mosaic practitioners. If you've been hesitant to work with thinset, this workshop's for you. If you've used thinset for ages and are looking for some new inspiration, this workshop's for you! Each student will receive two five-inch square sample boards incorporating the techniques taught in the workshop.

Biography

Visual artist **Kelley Knickerbocker** began studying mosaic in 2005 with various artists around the US, then left a 22-year administrative career at the University of Washington in 2006 to found a mosaic studio (Rivenworks Mosaics, Seattle) and begin designing/ fabricating/installing mosaic artwork for public, commercial, residential, and gallery environments. Kelley's ruggedly dimensional mosaic artworks—in natural and machined materials, found objects, sometimes even the waste of the studio process itself (paper towels and hardened cement mortar)—are a textural distillation of her fascination with contrast and material properties, and garnered her SAMA's MAI Innovation in Contemporary Mosaic award in 2015. Kelley travels extensively—speaking, collaborating, and teaching in-depth workshops on mosaic style and technique. ~rivenworksmosaics.com

Erin Pankratz Smith has been honing her intuitive understanding of color since her childhood in the Northwest Territories. Erin studied ballet until the age of 20, then art at Alberta College of Art and Design. In 1998, she began to explore mosaic, and in 2011 she “turned pro” with a 436-square-foot mosaic for the Edmonton International Airport. In 2013, Erin received the Innovation in Mosaics award from the SAMA MAI exhibition, and began sharing her innovative approach and techniques in workshops across North America. She continues to create mosaic for public, corporate, and private clients and build a robust body of personal work that pushes color boundaries and blurs the lines between the traditional elements of mosaic—substrate, adhesive, and tesserae. ~erinpankratz.com

The Transparent And Tempered Glass Technique with Susan Crocenzi

Session 27: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Bayview III, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$300 (Includes \$25 Materials Fee)

In a lecture/demo/slideshow format (no hands-on), Susan will teach you everything she knows about how to put glass (plain, tempered, and textured) to work in your artistic pursuits. Learning how to customize transparent materials adds a startling array of visual effects that you'll be able to use in your art. Plus, there is no more economical and environmentally-friendly tesserae than salvaged glass.

Starting in the morning with the basic tempered glass technique, Susan will cover all the verblicious (thrift, salvage, cut, shattered, glue, layer, draw, drool, color, paint, stain, ink, etch, wax, grind, grout, seal, polish, love) things she does to glass to “pretty it up” to employ in her art-making exploits.

Specific topics to be covered in class via demonstration, lecture, and slides:

- Tempered glass, plain glass, and textured glass;•Shattering tempered and cutting plain and textured glass;•Sources for these glasses (typically salvaged, free/cheap!);•Substrates for interior and exterior work;•Various adhesives for both interior and exterior work;•Color;•Glow and sparkle;•Matte and shine;•Geometric lines and diffused chaos;•Focal points and backgrounds;•Images and other under-glass embellishments;•Pattern; and
- Multi-colored grouting and grout color-wash.

Visit AmericanMosaics.org for more information and to register for the Conference.

By the end of the day, you will have an understanding of when to use tempered glass and when to use plain, how to choose the different substrates available to this technique, the pros and cons of using various thicknesses of glass, and how to locate and purchase these glasses. You will discover the huge range of colorants and flat embellishments that can be used in this technique and learn which materials draw focus, which ones diffuse it, and how to cover surfaces with glass, as well as create compositions with them.

Since this is a demo/lecture-only workshop (participants will not make anything), Susan will set up a private Facebook group for her SAMA students that will last for one year. As you get back home and begin working with these techniques, you will be able to post questions and photos, and get guidance and support from Susan and your workshop friends.

The workshop should particularly benefit those who have already taken a tempered glass technique workshop and want to learn more, or refresh their memories. It is also of particular interest to those who would like to find economical materials to use in mosaic. If you have no experience with this technique and still want to take this workshop, I highly recommend reviewing the three tempered glass how-to projects in Suzan Germond's book, *Found Art Mosaics*.

Biography

Susan Crocenzi is a contemporary mixed-media artist living in Northern California. She specializes in repurposing salvaged glass into exuberant, colorful, sparkling art. Susan has travelled the world, teaching her techniques and contributing to large public art projects. Her work has been included in many exhibits, including Mosaic Arts International and can also be seen in several print publications, including the cover of a college textbook. ~scmosaics.com

Precision Mosaic Jewelry with Margo Anton

Session 28: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5th

Location: Crown Point, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$323 (Includes \$28 Materials Fee)

The ability to make mosaic jewelry is a fantastic skill that can result in many gifts and sales! Learn how to create high-end, precisely-laid mosaic jewelry in this hands-on, full-day workshop. The day begins with a comprehensive lecture and slide show on jewelry bases, adhesives, and suitable tesserae followed by an examination of design for jewelry and how it differs from standard mosaic design. Precision cutting, the key to fine mosaic jewelry, will be discussed, demonstrated, and practiced. Jewelry laying techniques will be thoroughly covered, and students can expect many great tips! Class participants will receive lots of individual attention as they work on silver plate mosaic pendants using mosaic gold, smalti, filati, semiprecious stones, dichroic glass, and millefiori. Students will leave with a finished pendant to show off to their SAMA friends, or with materials to complete the project later. A comprehensive handout will be provided, and participants should expect to depart with the knowledge and skills to create precision mosaic jewelry on their own. This session should particularly benefit

participants of all levels who want to learn to cut material more precisely, want to add high-end mosaic jewelry to their repertoire, or are interested in learning to work in small-scale mosaics.

Materials provided: all materials and tools to create the mosaic pendant except wheeled glass nippers and protective eyewear.

Students should bring: wheeled glass nippers (Leponitt brand preferred, though not required) and safety glasses to the workshop, as well as any magnifying eyewear or tools if required or desired.

Biography

Margo Anton has been working as a professional mosaic artist for over a decade, creating fine art mosaics, mosaic jewelry, and teaching classes. She has exhibited her texture-focused art work in her native Canada, the U.S., Italy, and in past SAMA exhibitions. When not creating mosaics and mosaic jewelry, she shares her knowledge and love of the mosaic medium by teaching, from regular classes in Canada, to workshops in the U.S., to artist residencies abroad. In 2009, she created the Mosaic-a-Day Project, creating a small mosaic every day; her exceptionally precise jewelry was one of the by-products of this endeavor. Her mastery of the tiniest cuts enables her to create outstanding high-end mosaic jewelry, which can be seen at ~margoanton-mosaicjewels.com.

Bend, Fold, and Undulate: Lightweight Dimensional Hand-Formed Substrates with Marian Shapiro

Session 29A: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Session 29B: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Point Loma – Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$325 (Includes \$30 Materials Fee)

Australian mosaic artist Marian Shapiro is known for her use of three-dimensional, hand-formed, cement substrates, often giving the illusion of flowing material. Join her in this practical, hands-on session and discover how to make your own lightweight, dimensional, hand-formed substrates suitable for indoors or outdoors. The day kicks off with an inspirational presentation, giving examples of Marian's work using this method plus that of students who have taken this course. Then, working with fiberglass mesh and thinset, students create two, wall-hanging substrates of their own design. The first is flat, folded, or undulating—or a combination of all three. The second substrate is hollow, such as a mask or torso, and is created by using sand to make a mold (sand-casting).

Both these substrates are made in two stages, so students complete the first stage during the workshop but need to complete them on their own time afterwards. Sufficient material will be provided to take away and finish the substrates started in class. Marian will demonstrate the finishing process and each student receives a half-made substrate and finishes it off in class so that they feel fully confident in completing their own substrates at home. There is no actual mosaicking in this class. However, discussions of design concepts as well as issues to be taken into account when applying mosaic to a 3-D form are an integral part of the day.

The class is kept small to give students individual attention and participants are actively encouraged to ask questions. Full, illustrated course notes are provided. This session will particularly benefit those who wish to extend their artistic practice by moving beyond the flat surface.

Biography

Adopted Australian, **Marian Shapiro** has been making art and architectural mosaics since 2003. She has participated in numerous group shows and has been a three-time finalist at MAI. Her second solo show was in August 2015, in a central Sydney gallery. A multi-award winning artist, Marian's work is shown and collected both in Australia and internationally. She is known for her use of color and her innovative work with dimensional substrates. She has created public and commercial commissions in Sydney, and many of her works are in private collections in Australia and abroad. Marian's work has been featured in a number of mosaic books, she has been teaching mosaics since 2008, and is widely sought after as a teacher and speaker. Her teaching style is highly participatory and she works with small groups to ensure that all participants benefit fully. [-dariandesign.com.au](http://dariandesign.com.au)

I Got The Power with Pearse Kelly

Session 30A : 6:00pm – 8:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Session 30B: 8:00pm – 10:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Mission III, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skill Levels

Price: \$150 - no materials fee

The goal of this session will be to familiarize students with some of the electrically-powered tools available today that are useful in the creation of unique and interesting tesserae for their mosaic artwork. The class will involve discussion and demonstration of several motorized tools that will boost productivity and creativity. They will include:

- Wet saw;
- Grinder;
- Ring saw; and
- Rotozip and Dremel tools.

Focus will be on the selection, safe operation, maintenance, and limitations of these tools as well as which tools might compliment the student's individual style. We will look very specifically at the opportunities they present to create highly-individualized glass and ceramic tesserae to compliment the existing palette of the mosaic artist.

The instructor will demonstrate how certain unique pieces can be formed with these tools and show slides of how the tesserae then compliment the artistic statement of different finished mosaic works without having an altogether manufactured look.

Materials used in the demonstrations shall be high- and low-fired ceramic tile, porcelain for pique assiette, glass tile, standard 1/8" stained glass, smalti, vitreous glass, and cement block.

This session should particularly benefit those who wish to:

- Expand their creativity by creating unique tesserae;
- Reduce material waste;
- Boost productivity; and
- Reduce wrist and finger fatigue.

Materials provided: all powered cutting tools and materials for demonstrations. Products demonstrated shall not be brand specific. The session's PowerPoint file will be available for distribution.

Students may bring: a sample of ceramic material they wish to see cut for trial purposes, otherwise a notepad and pencil will be fine.

Biography

Pearse Kelly was born into a large family of highly-artistic individuals in Dublin, Ireland, where being able to draw or paint was a given, much like riding a bicycle. Though his academic background was in engineering and design, he discovered mosaics twenty years ago while tiling a bathroom, and became absorbed in the possibilities of artistic expression with tile, glass, stone, and other tesserae.

Currently a full-time mosaic artist, Pearse creates public and private mosaic commissions and community projects from his Splashmosaic studio in Sarasota, FL. Mosaic classes in Florida are taught at the Artful Giraffe and Fogartyville Media and Arts Center in Sarasota, Creative Classes in Venice, and the Manatee Arts Center in Bradenton. Pearse is a member of SAMA and received mosaic training at the Institute of Mosaic Art, Oakland CA; Ringling College of Art, Sarasota; and with Luciana Notturmi in Ravenna, Italy. ~splashmosaic.com

Hammer and Hardie Bootcamp with Michael Kruzich

Session 31A: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Session 31B: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Building D Room 8, Marina Village Conference Center

All Skill Levels

Price: \$335 (Includes \$50 Materials Fee)

Always wanted to learn hammer and hardie cutting techniques? Or, frustrated with your own hammer and hardie cutting and want to improve? This course is for students who have no hammer and hardie experience and would like to learn these cutting methods, AND students who have some experience, but would like to have the extra supervised time to hone their cutting skills. Come get a solid eight hours of supervised experience.

This is a condensed version of what I usually teach as a two-day course, so you will be VERY busy. We'll be spending A LOT of time at the hardie block! With a watchful eye and determination to get you started, most people can acquire these skills. There is no magic; it is simply a matter of alignment and practice, practice, practice. How good you get at it depends on how much time you spend at it.

If you can hit a nail with a hammer you can probably learn how to cut with these tools. However if you have issues with the stability or dexterity of your hands or with hand-eye coordination this may prove to be a very frustrating experience for you. The entire day will be spent learning about and cutting a variety of materials with these tools and how to develop consistency and confidence in your skills

Through lecture, demo and LOTS of hands-on practice, students will learn:

- Proper grip, placement, alignment and use of tools;
- Exposure to the various weights and styles of hammers available;
- How to set a hardie in a wooden base;
- How to cut a wide variety of materials including:
 - Stones of varying densities and hardness;
 - Smalti: Italian, Mexican and Chinese;
 - Unglazed porcelain and ceramic; and
 - Unusual and challenging materials brought in by students.
- Cutting methods for various shapes will also be covered and practiced.

This is a cutting course and no mosaics will be made in the class . the focus of the workshop is learning to cut with the hammer and hardie and the repetition and practice it takes to do so. Students go home with their cut tesserae and the uncut remainder of their materials and a handout for future reference.

Materials provided:

Hammers and hardies and bases will be provided, though you are welcome to bring your own hammer if you own one.

Hardie bases used in class will also be available for purchase at the Di Mosaico vendor booth following the two sessions of classes.

Biography

Michael Kruzich was trained at the Mosaic Art School in Ravenna, Italy by Maestra Luciana Notturmi and her colleagues. His work has exhibited nationally and internationally, winning awards at the annual MAI exhibits in 2010, 2011, and 2015, as well as appearing in several art and mosaic publications. A professional member of SAMA, Michael is based in San Francisco, CA where he maintains his studio practice creating fine art mosaics, reproductions, and commissions for private and commercial clients and teaching the classical Italian principles and methods of making mosaics.

Michael works mainly in stone and smalti. His works, both figurative and abstract, fuse ancient techniques into contemporary themes and subject matter, and are often characterized by movement, dramatic and subtle color/light contrasts, and a high level of detail. He teaches in a no-frills, no-nonsense, yet supportive hands-on manner. Courses are composed of lectures and demos on the classic principles and methods, but the majority of the course is actually “getting-to-work” and “learning-by-doing.” ~mkmosaics.com

Realism in Mosaic: Approaches to Still Life and Portraiture with Carol Shelkin

Session 32: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Bayview II, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Price: \$350 (Includes \$55 Materials Fee)

In this workshop you will be guided through the process of understanding realism in mosaic art. Instruction is given to help achieve curved and flat planes, understanding value, composition and design, working with color and mastering artists' tricks for self-critiquing to create a work of art.

You will begin your own mosaic to take home using high-quality stained glass. You will learn how to “paint with glass,” creating a piece for interior display.

Mosaic is unique to all students and the goal of this workshop is to direct and assist each student to find, develop, and polish their own style. You will learn how to develop an eye for mosaic and create a line drawing (mosaic cartoon) with easy-to-follow steps. There will be a PowerPoint presentation, "photographic-models" will be supplied, and your mosaic will begin, but not be completed in class. Materials will be supplied for completion.

Discussions will include: presenting your work to galleries, submitting to juried exhibitions, building a resume, pricing, photographing your mosaic art, proper adhesives, to frame or not to frame, tools, and materials for interior display.

The lessons taught and instructions given will last you long after this workshop is over, with no question left unanswered. Bring questions! This workshop is designed to take the student to the next level.

Biography

Carol Shelkin, artist and instructor, creates contemporary, original, and intricate mosaic designs that emanate care and attention to detail with hand-cut stained glass.

It was clear to Carol at a young age, that her life would be centered on her passion for art. She continued her artistic direction with studies at Fleisher Art Memorial, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and courses at Studio Arte Del Mosaico, Ravenna, Italy.

Carol started teaching art in 1980 in Philadelphia and through art training and academic courses, she learned all the techniques necessary to teach fine art. She has experience teaching a variety of art mediums and now offers mosaic art workshops and mosaic art retreats throughout the US and worldwide including such places as Barcelona, Costa Rica, Mexico, Morocco, France, and Australia, to name a few. Carol is one of the founding members of the Mosaic Society of Philadelphia and the current president. ~CarolShelkinMosaics.com

Mosaicking *The Hand of God* with Antonella Gallenda from Orsoni

Session 33: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Location: Guest Room 1916, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Price: \$350 (Includes \$50 Materials Fee)

The Hand of God is perhaps the most enduring of Michelangelo's paintings. This is particularly true of the detail that shows the two hands as they reach towards each other, tantalizingly close, almost touching. It illustrates the moment when life is instilled in Adam by God. Michelangelo places the central focus on the hands of both God and Adam, not just by the juxtaposition of the figures, but also the two outstretched arms. Adam, who is only half-sitting up against the mountainside, seems weak and languid—his arm resting upon one bent knee as if it is too heavy for him to hold up without some support. His hand is limp, the fingers are drooping as if they are without energy—awaiting the vital spark of life.

During the this workshop, Antonella will teach how to represent real hands, like those by Michelangelo, enhancing the lighting and clearness and reproducing anatomical details using dynamic curves. The three-dimensional size of the smalti emphasizes the creation of volume and light/dark areas. The focus is about organizing the tiles inside a space, their shape, their size, the best interstice between one tile and its neighbor, volume, and andamento. Mosaic application is “direct method” on wood.

Materials provided: Orsoni will provide all the needed tesserae, tools, substrate, and glue. If the work is not completed during the class, students will receive the tesserae to finish it a home. Students are required to bring their safety glasses.

Biography

Antonella Gallenda has been working at Angelo Orsoni of Italy since 1981 and is Lucio Orsoni's trusty assistant. She teaches the mosaic classes held at Orsoni in Venice and various classes abroad. While managing the mosaic studio at Orsoni, Antonella also works in the restoration and application of finished mosaics for interiors. For the past five years, she has intensely studied the techniques of micromosaics, having attended courses in several studios in Rome. Antonella has taught workshops for the past several SAMA Conferences, including Tacoma, Austin, and Chicago. ~orsoni.com

Working with Smalti with Mireille Swinnen (2 Day Intensive)

Session 34: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Monday, April 4, and Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Location: Mission III, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay

All Skills Levels

Price: \$455 (Includes \$60 Materials Fee)

This workshop should particularly benefit those who want to learn how to render a realistic image in a painterly style in mosaics using smalti and gold smalti. Our goal is to learn to choose the right colors and to cut the right shapes to render the image that the student has chosen. In order to do so, we will study the theory of color, the principles of andamento, the power of mixing colors and mixing tesserae sizes. Big and small pieces of smalti will be available in a myriad of colors in order to stimulate the students' creativity and to empower their work. The instructor will coach each student individually to meet their specific needs to complete the task.

Materials provided: Montolit nippers, project prints, substrates, glue, tweezers. One hammer and hardie will be on site to facilitate those in need of reducing big smalti pieces. The student will go home with a (near) finished 8 x 8 inch mosaic that he/she will treasure forever and a much better understanding of how to obtain appealing results while working with smalti.

Biography

Mireille Swinnen is Belgian by nationality but has lived abroad all her adult life except for four years in Washington, D.C. and three years in Los Angeles. She runs a mosaic studio in Belgium during three months in the summer and teaches specialized workshops in California the rest of the year. Mireille's preference is the utilization of smalti and gold smalti in a figurative, painterly style, using a lot of big chunks so the work becomes very sculptural. Her work has been selected for various shows and exhibits and she was given the Members' Choice Award at SAMA MAI, Philadelphia, in 2015. ~belka.homestead.com