

The Baie d'Urfé Potters Guild
presents

A two day participation workshop

Image Transfer with CHRIS SNEDDEN

March 10 and 11, 2012

Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm and Sunday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Location: Whiteside Taylor Centre
20551 Lakeshore Road,
Baie d'Urfé, Quebec.

Cost: \$70 members, \$90 for non-members

Material fee (optional): \$ 50 for individual silk screen, prepared for printing.

Please bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea are provided.

Post lunch supper Saturday evening directly after the workshop.

Please see the attached photo, and view www.chrissnedden.com

During this Two day workshop Chris will start by throwing a couple of pieces and decorating in the wet state to create a background to work on later. We will just touch on the more traditional slip decorating techniques so that everyone will start with somewhat the same background.

We will go over the mono printing process, using a random image drawn from a newspaper, and have everyone try making a smaller flat tile piece. This will familiarize everyone with the transfer process and help the participants gain sensitivity to when to remove the covering paper from the print. This is also a good time to introduce the use of formal principles and elements of design and how they can be used to improve composition on one's pieces.

The next section of the workshop is about creating repeat prints using rubber stamps. We will go over tips and tricks to make your prints viable for the transfer process and how to tell if the slip is the correct consistency to "daub" onto the printing block. We will practice this process to make sure everyone has it under their belt, and use some maybe on the flat piece that we created before.

Following this is an explanation and demonstration of how to make silk screens. How to convert images to the high contrast black and white necessary to make the transparencies used to "burn" the photo silk screens. Everyone will receive handouts and product lists so they know what products to use for this process and Chris will describe how to coat the silk screen with the photo-sensitive emulsion and "burn" a screen, washing out the soft bits to

create the screen. While that screen dries we will get used to “pulling” prints using slips and everyone will get their custom made screens and squeegees to make their own prints.

Next comes the fun part, in that the participants will explore using their silkscreen prints in combination with paper resist to create depth on their pieces. Cutting out their prints with scissors and using them in their compositions, maybe in combination with block prints and monoprints, learning how to make them opaque or transparent to show the background through an image and proper methods for burnishing the images onto the leather hard ware.

At the end of the workshop participants will be able to create their own slip transfers, using various methods, and have some ideas about using them to create either abstract pattern, or subjective narrative effects on their work.

IMPORTANT: Please see attached sheet of instructions and digital photo requirements for silk screen images.

To reserve a spot: (include material fee if silk screen desired). Send cheque made payable to “The Baie d’Urfé Potters Guild”

Send to: Jenny Anderson, 80 Heritage, Beaconsfield, QC. H9W 3V3

For more information please contact: Brenda Mader 514-683-1188
brenda.mader@sympatico.ca



Preparing for the Image Transfer Workshop

Important: Instructions for digital photo images, required asap.

(optional- for those purchasing prepared silk screen)

This is a participatory slip decorating workshop on producing and using image transfers. During the workshop we will explore various ways of printing, using slips, to create transfers for applying highly detailed imagery to your **leather** hard clay work. We will freehand draw making Mono-prints, block print, and also create a custom photo silkscreen to print images. We will discuss back painting with slips and under-glazes to add colour to your images, how to create depth in your surface using paper resists, and then apply what we have created to several leather hard pieces that you will bring to the workshop. There is a bit of preparation that you will need to do for this workshop and I will outline it below.

The photo silk screening process we will use requires us to make a black and white transparency of the images we wish to use. Therefore I need each participant to send me the images they wish to "burn" onto their screen (see specs below). I will convert the images you send me into high contrast black and whites, and convert them to custom make a silkscreen which I will deliver to you at the workshop. **Very important: I need those images at least two weeks before the workshop so that I have time to make your custom screen to use in the workshop!**

Some considerations while choosing images:

- The only reason to go through this process is to create images on your pieces that would otherwise be impossible for you to do in a timely way, or to create multiple images of the same thing.
- A singled out image is more effective as an element of design in your work. In other words... it is easier and offers you more possibilities in terms of design to produce slip transfers that will go **in** a number of designs, rather than just print the whole of some preconceived design. Single images are more malleable and there is a lot more fun that one can have with them. An image of say... a frog could go in some water scene, or be used in a depiction of the "Frog Prince" story, or as a repeated frog image on the rim of a plate or something.
- Recognize that I need to know the approximate size of the image that you will need, in order for you to get the best value for your materials fee. For example: An average mug would need an image of about 3" in height while a repeated image that will go around the rim of a plate will be much smaller. If you want to create say... a commemorative plate depicting some figure or other then you might want the image to be bigger in order for that image to be emphasized in the design. Also Images can be blown up, made smaller, and/or flipped to make the frog face this way or that way.
- the single transparency for the silk screen may be able to accommodate one large image, or two or three small images.
- send Chris the images for your transparency - maximum 5 images. Each must be at least 150dpi or higher, 300dpi is best. JPEG or TIFF format please.

Note: the dots per square inch or dpi is important! Best to use an original digital photos, not

one from a website as these are generally low dpi. Your images should be high resolution. If converting for email to a JPEG or TIFF, choose the largest size available. Check "Get Info" to see the dpi of the JPEG you are sending. So the resolution of the images you send determines my ability to give you nice crisp clear detailed images.

IMPORTANT I need to receive your images asap and before Feb.23. I require at least two weeks to ensure time to prepare the transparency of the images that you want to use on your silk screen and get your screen together.

A materials fee of \$50 includes a professionally made silkscreen with your custom images already burned onto it, ready to use, and a squeegee. I will demonstrate the process of making your own screens and what materials to buy, so that you can, after you print out a bunch of slip transfers with this screen, wash out the hardened photo-emulsion and re-burn the screen with new images at a later date. The nice thing about this is that you can print out a bunch of sheets of transfers and keep them for later use, wash out the screen and make other slip transfer prints with the same screen.

Just a note about the Materials fee. All of the materials for the silk-screening are readily available at any good art supply store. The Speedball screens I get are there as well as the photo emulsion kit and squeegees. Generally the screens retail for about 34 dollars and so does the photo emulsion kit and then you have to burn your images onto the screen. Each kit is good for about 10 screens. The squeegees are 14 and change and the transparencies from Staples are almost 2 dollars each. So all that considered, I am just breaking even on the materials fee let alone the time it takes to convert and arrange images on my computer. It's a pretty good deal for a custom made screen and if you plan your images right you can make tons of transfers that you can use.

Things to prepare for the workshop:

- at least 2 leather hard pots - 1 plate and one cylindrical object (vase, mug, etc.)

Things to bring along with you to the workshop:

- Your pots - Brushes - Slips (I'll bring a bunch of slips with me based on Robin Hopper's recipe) - Underglazes - Trailers – a metal spoon – rubber ribs (I like the yellow mud tools one) - Scraper - Scissors - A fine grained sponge (upholstery sponge works well) - a towel - Rubber stamps (the red rubber ones work best) - scraffito tool or carving tool - anything else you can think of to use for slip decorating!

Contact me at: clayguy4u@chrissnedden.com