

Pâte de Verre Workshop

In this workshop, you will learn an ancient technique for casting glass. We will cast powdered and finely ground glass frit, available both clear and colored, in open molds to make small glass items suitable for inclusion in jewelry. We will use both commercial molds and plaster molds that we will make. On the first day we will make the plaster molds in the morning, and then in the afternoon we will decorate and fill those molds and some commercial molds with the powdered and fine glass frit. The kiln firing will start late that first day and run for about 34 hours.

In the second session, we will open the kiln, and remove the cast glass from the molds. Then we will use lapidary equipment to remove any sharp edges from the castings and to smooth and buff the glass that was in contact with the mold. We should also have time to prepare a second firing for the evening of the second day of the workshop.

Please bring a mask or respirator to wear while working with dry plaster and for some of the polishing steps. An apron is a good idea too.

All other tools and supplies will be provided.