

## Introduction to Chasing and Repoussé (C&R)



This course will introduce concepts, tools and methods of chasing and repoussé (or repoussage) (C&R). Consider a flat piece of metal: chasing yields a design on its side to be viewed, while repoussé pushes out material from the back to create visual depth in the finished piece. All working of a piece is done using steel punches and a hammer to move the metal to create a finished piece.

Students will complete two pieces in this class out of 2-inch by 2-inch metal pieces – one with copper and one with sterling silver (a materials' fee charged for the metals will be collected by the instructor – pay this fee via cash or check, please).

A pitch bowl and set of basic C&R tools will be provided. TLS will also provide an electric heat gun to soften the pitch to mount and dismount the piece being worked. Students will anneal metal using a torch, also.

### Tools to be brought by *each student*

- Work apron or other clothing protection (you do not want pitch on your clothing!)
- Hearing protection
- Eye protection
- Jewelry tweezers (for prying piece being worked out of the pitch)
- Wire brush (for removing release agent and pitch from piece)
- Cleaning rag(s)
- Sharpie marker
- Designs on paper for possible pieces to create
- Students may bring flat scrap pieces of their own metal for practicing chasing

### Tools to be provided by *TLS*

- Cast iron bowl with rubber gasket, filled with green pitch
- Set of nine (9) steel punches
- Steel blocks(?)
- Blocks (wood or metal) for moving softened pitch in pitch bowl
- Electric heat gun, for softening pitch to mount and remove a metal piece being worked
- Acetone
- Gas torch, for annealing a metal piece being worked
- Soldering flux
- Pickle pot
- Wire brush, for cleaning piece after it was pickled
- Steel wool
- Mild abrasive powder
- Used toothbrush
- Release agent

### Materials kit for purchase in the class will include:

- Copper sheet, 20 gauge, 2" x 2"
- Sterling silver sheet, 20 gauge, 2" x 2"
- Plasticine