

## Sifting & Stencilling with Enamel



Enamelling (vitreous) is the ancient art of fusing glass onto metal. There are many beautiful styles of Enamelling; learning the Sifting and Stencilling technique is a great introduction to this craft. We will, using a brilliant selection of opaque enamel colors, explore sifting, sgraffito, foils and P3 onto a copper base.

These 'spontaneous' techniques produce some delightfully fun works that can be set in Pre-made bezels ready for wearing.

Basic bench skills are required for this workshop.

*During this course you will cover the following areas*

- What is Enamel?
- What are the different techniques of enamelling.
- Learn about equipment used for enamelling.
- Explore various methods of making stencils.
- Design and make some Stencilled Enamel items.
- Set some of these in pre made settings.
- Explore design development.
- Find out where to buy Enamelling supplies and materials.

### Description of Techniques

*Sifting* – Dry enamel is sifted onto freshly cleaned copper sheet and fired in the kiln to melt the enamel on. Subsequent layers of enamel are sifted on through stencils to build up design and image.

*Sgraffito* – Enamel is sifted onto a prepared enamelled base and scratched back through to create a design by exposing the colours underneath.

*P3* – This is a very finely ground black enamel that is painted on in a wash over a prepared enamel base. By removing areas of the P3, colours and patterns in the enamel underneath are exposed. Very fine sketch-like work can be created by drawing into the P3 with a fine point.

*Foil* – Fine silver foil can be cut with scissors to make patterns to fire into the enamel. This very reflective material can shine brightly when it is fired onto the enamel surface and transparent enamels are layered and fired over them.

All of these techniques can be used together to build up some wonderful enamel designs.

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