

Student Materials & Tools List	
Class:	Inspiration & Creativity   Porcelain & Drawing
Tutor:	Shannon Garson
Room:	A229

**BYO - The following items are not included in your registration. Please bring the following with you:**

- 4 – 6 tiles or shards of clay made from Keane Lumina Mid-fire Porcelain (or similar cone 6 [1222°C] white clay), approximately 15cm x 15cm, to decorate. These can be hand built or thrown, as rough as you like for experimenting on.
- **GREENWARE - THAT IS UNFIRED PIECES \*\*\*\*\*WARNING\*\*\*\*\* BISQUED PIECES ARE NOT SUITABLE FOR THIS WORKSHOP.**
- Brushes – at least 4 x brushes, fat and thin (I use calligraphy brushes, but watercolour brushes are also good):



- Brushes – 2 x cheap, acrylic brushes for shellac:



- Sgraffito tools – pin tools.
- 2 x metal ribs:



- Sketchbook.
- Pens and pencils.
- Scissors.
- Camera or phone camera.
- Paint palette OR 6 - 8 jar lids:



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**Approximate material cost:**

- **+ \$85 BYO Material & Tools cost (approximately):** please note that you may already have some of these.
- **+ \$225 McGregor Workshop Delivery Fee:** this covers additional materials, tools, & models (where relevant) specific to this workshop. These will be supplied by McGregor at time of workshop. Payable at time of workshop registration.

***If you have a question that is specifically about the materials, please contact your tutor at [shannongarson72@gmail.com](mailto:shannongarson72@gmail.com)***

# Workshop Schedule

*Please note schedule as shown is a guideline only. Changes may occur.*

Date:

7 January – 13 January 2024

Time:

9am – 4pm daily

## DAY 1: Sunday 7th January

### MAKING PAPER CLAY

- Explore the clay by rolling it into sausages and balls and then wedging toilet paper into it to make paper clay.
- Explore the possibilities for manipulating the clay.
- Become familiar with the material, squishing, and squashing and having fun!

### SPHERE FACTORY

- Make 5 hollow ceramic spheres and pinch pots.
- Develop your skills with clay and start them on a process of interacting with clay as a material, finding the limits and of what the material can do. The spheres must be round and smooth.

### COLOUR MIXING

- Using underglazes, colour mixing and oxides - set up easy techniques mixing colour that you can use on a variety of clays and surfaces, providing you with the knowledge and confidence to mix your own colours using a variety of ceramic mediums.
- Practice on small tiles and our own bone-dry work.

### THROWING PORCELAIN

- Explore form with a throwing demonstration. Tea bowls (one at least for each person) and teacup forms.

## DAY 2: Monday 8th January - PATTERN

- Explore the use of pattern in our forms - decorate a series of forms using pattern and explore how the forms work together, how patterns bounce off one another in a group, and the use of negative space while using three-dimensional forms with patterns.
- Use shellac resist in combination with sgraffito.

### SGRAFFITO

- Use sgraffito in our designs. I will demonstrate a straight sgraffito technique. Sgraffito is a great, easy technique which can be used to excellent effect with fine lines and details.

### DEMONSTRATION: COMPOUND TECHNIQUES

- Using underglazes, colour mixing and oxides, set up easy techniques you can use on a variety of clays and surfaces, and provide you with the knowledge and confidence to mix your own colours using a variety of ceramic mediums.
- Practice on small tiles and our own bone-dry work.

### **THROWING**

- Turning tea bowls, teacups, and pulling handles.

### **OUTCOME**

- End the day with a couple of tiles and at least three spheres or pods using shellac and sgraffito.

### **FIRING**

First bisque.

## **DAY 3: Tuesday 9th January – INSPIRATION**

This is the day we talk about a really useful tool I call a “Creative Framework”.

### **FIELD NOTES**

- This is an exercise outside of the classroom. Starting with photography and collecting we are going to do a field trip around the school. The aim of this day is to kick start inspiration, to set a series of actions that will take you into the studio where a complex subject matter like landscape, leaves or architecture becomes a drawing, pot, or design.
- Our object diary today will include direct material from our field trip, this leads us into creating design and resolved artwork inspired by the natural world.

### **DEMONSTRATION- still life to design.**

- How to create design from found objects or inspirational images.
- Today we will do a firing so we can review our work and start work on our final projects.

### **DESIGNING TABLEWARE**

- We will use our fieldwork to prompt a serious, practical exercise to design tableware. Tableware are designs that you can repeat and have a different focus to exhibition works. This is a good exercise for all students as it stimulates the design thinking in your practice. This will involve practical exercises to identify and refine forms, discuss colour and composition and work within tableware conventions when looking at your source material. Even if tableware is not your thing exercises like this can stimulate new ideas within your practice and take your work further along your own creative journey.

### **THROWING**

Throwing lessons continue with demonstrations and wheel work.

- Attach handles
- Throw tall cylinders

## **DAY 4: Wednesday 10th January - COMPOSITION AND NEGATIVE SPACE**

Bring along images of ceramics that have inspired you, and images of colours, patterns, textiles photos from nature or art that you want to include in your design. We will talk about ceramic surface design, how to relate the shape of your drawing to your ceramic piece, the role of texture and colour within ceramic design and how to integrate the surface with the body of the form.

By this stage we will be ready with a developed idea of our final designs. A critical component of this workshop will be group discussion. This is a creative and valuable part of the workshop. Not only will it help us to hone our ideas, but it will also generate a lot of excitement and stimulation for the final part of the week which will be finishing our pieces for firing.

### **THROWING AND HANDBUILDING**

- Spheres and big bowls, and ongoing technique for hand building large forms.

### **FIRING**

- Tonight, we have our final bisque going into the kiln.

### **OUTCOME**

- Finish the day with some vessels using composition and negative space as the primary structure within your drawing.
- Throwers and hand builders practice spheres and big bowls.

## **DAY 5: Thursday 11th January - ADVANCED TECHNIQUES**

This is the time to refine our skills and work on our projects. We will choose a theme and a series of objects that we want to work on and try to create a small body of work that shows resolution and the techniques we have learnt.

- We will look at sources for inspiration, writing, images, and nature.
- Layering techniques and setting our goals for final works.

### **EXERCISE**

- Taking a line for a walk - creativity exercise combining all our techniques. This is about using your creativity in different ways, turning your drawing around, and builds processes for how to move further into your projects. All these exercises are tools to help with creative blocks, resolving your work and expanding your practice.

### **GLAZING**

### **FIRING**

- Tonight, we will fire our final 1280 firing.

## **DAY 6: Friday 12th January - FINISHING WORK**

Finishing the work takes time and is a really important part of your studio life. Today we will look at our work, and I will talk about how to finish, photograph and display work to its greatest advantage.

### **DEMONSTRATION**

- Sanding work, phone photography, finishing surfaces, thinking about exhibiting in your home and for public exhibition.

### **TALK ABOUT TERRA SIGILATA**

Terra Sigilata is an ancient technique of refining clay slip to make a beautiful, satin surface that can be used in multiple ways for decoration. I will demonstrate

- making Terra Sigilata
- The chemical principles of using Terra Sigilata in the language of cooking so everyone can make it (not just glaze and clay experts!)
- Using Terra Sigilata in layers.
- Making Terra Sigilata from found materials.

Bring a notebook and pen (there will be some recipes!) and camera.

### **DAY 7: Saturday 13th January - UNPACKING THE FINAL FIRING!**

- Unpack the final 1280 firing.
- Celebrate all our workshop outcomes!