

Photograph & GROW CRYSTALS on molten glaze

GAIN DIRECT EXPERIENCE —

guided by a polymath with 50 years of experience. Create and crystal-glaze-fire porcelain forms as a path to master the challenging and endlessly fascinating crystalline glaze process.

During this intensive 3 day workshop, students (with more-than-a-little excitement) will program & fire a digitally controlled kiln, hot-photograph the molten crystalline growth progression and unload and examine the rapidly cooled & frequently astonishing results of their creative endeavor.

Workshop: October 14th >16th, 2021

Class Size: 6 participants

Days: Friday > Sunday

Hours: 8:00 to 5:00 & beyond

Price: \$875.00 / materials included

Hostel: \$285.00 / room & board

ARTISAN LAB

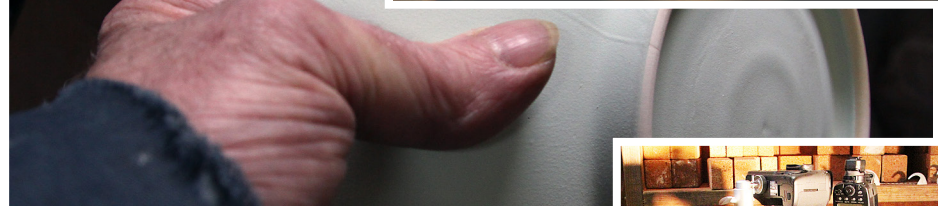
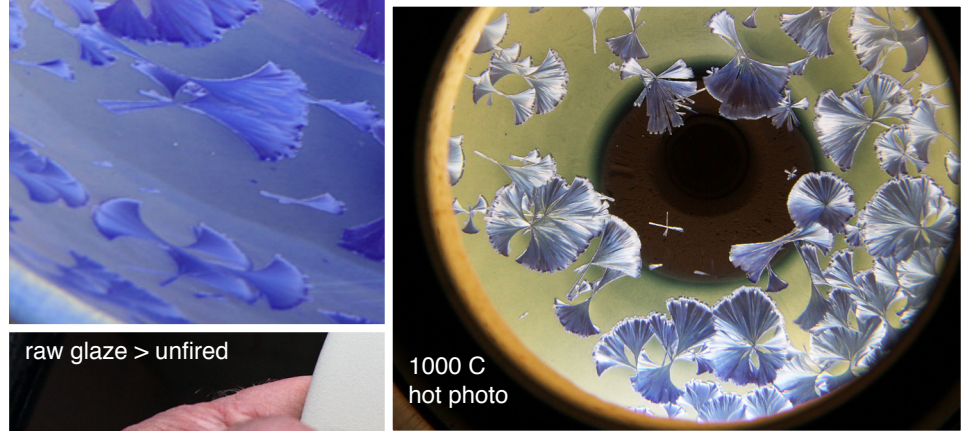
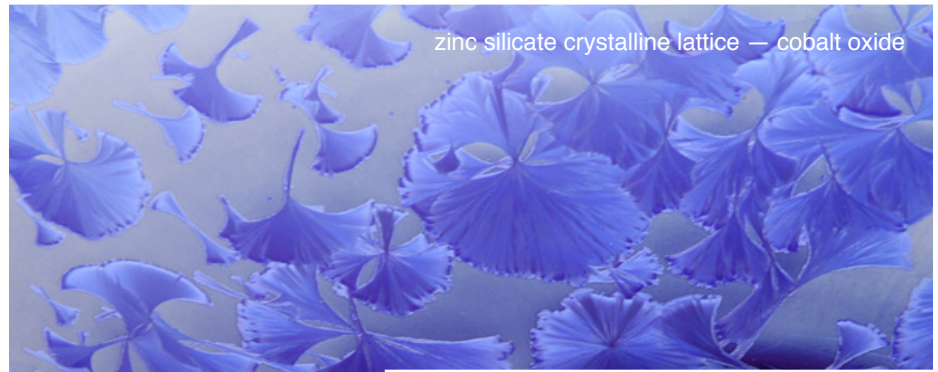
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CRYSTALLINE GLAZE WORKSHOP

Three days of personal guidance, with hands-on practice, to explore the path of crystalline glaze development. It is not hyperbole to say; this is a unique opportunity to develop skills (frequently held to be secret) to establish circumstances which spontaneously create crystalline glazed porcelain forms using equipment and ceramic studio space fine-tuned over 50 years of use and development.

STUDIO TOUR & SEMINAR

Participants will be given a show-and-tell tour of our 8000 square feet studio space to understand the exceptional capacity and range of processes and materials available. Learn-how-it-works seminar (with reading list) will describe the means and challenges of crystalline glazing, and support questions-and-answers regarding all aspects. Participants will be compatibly paired to work through each stage of the process as collaborative teams.

GLAZE MIXING & APPLICATION

Teams will mix glaze formulas and practice precision glaze application using our (shop-built) spray booth with tiny high-quality Iwata spray guns. Teams will learn to monitor critical glaze application thickness with (shop-built) dial indicators, gauging thickness in ten thousandths of a millimeter.

KILNS

Our five computer-controlled electric kilns will be introduced and their use for crystalline glaze firing fully detailed. Computer applications to control kiln firing ramps will be explored to understand the critical importance of precisely monitoring and controlling kiln time-temperature ramps to create circumstances for crystal growth in molten glaze.

FIRING

Hot photography camera equipment will be introduced and described to image crystal growth at top temperature. Kilns will be loaded with glazed porcelain forms and the hot imaging camera pre-focused. Computer time-temperature ramps will be chosen and the kiln firing started. As the kiln reaches top temperature and is rapidly cooled and held at crystal growth temperature, hot imaging equipment is momentarily placed on the kiln to image crystal development at timed intervals. When the desired crystal growth is seen via the hot photo imaging—the kiln firing is stopped. In a matter of hours—the kiln will be cool enough to hold and examine the result of this complex and extraordinary process.

QUALIFICATION

Anyone over the age of 18, whose skill sets demonstrate exceptional hand / eye coordination and attention to detail will be given equal consideration to participate. A skilled knitter, musical instrument enthusiast, juggler or gymnast, watch repairman, cabinet maker, computer programmer, or experienced clay worker are all equally skill capable crystalline glaze participants regardless of age or occupational status.

PURPOSE

The focused goal of the workshop is provide an opportunity for participants to practice the challenging step-by-step process which is essential to create the container & circumstance for a molten crystalline lattice to grow on the glazed surface. Creation of an end product is not the goal—but the spontaneous result which is critically dependent on the participant's capacity to maintain focused attention on process detail, sequence and content. You will gain experiential understanding and portable capacity through practice.