

2022 McGregor Winter

Students' Materials List

Class Sumptuous Surfaces

Tutor Shannon Garson

We provide this list of materials as a guide only for you to bring to the Retreat. Your Tutor has compiled this list so you can embrace the class and skills being taught. In addition, for this workshop, McGregor will purchase underglazes and oxides as directed by the tutor. The cost will be divided by the number of participants and be emailed out with an invoice to pay prior to the School.

*There will also be some thrown greenware available for a fee to pre order before the workshop – see below.

Please bring the following -

- 4-6 unfired pieces to decorate
 - Bring greenware - unfired pieces
- 4-6 tiles or shards of clay about 15cm x 15cm to decorate they can be hand built or thrown, as rough as you like for experimenting on
- **Any clay but bring some white**
 - **WARNING bisqued pieces are not suitable for this workshop**
- Brushes (fat and thin at least 4 brushes I use calligraphy brushes, but watercolour brushes are also good)

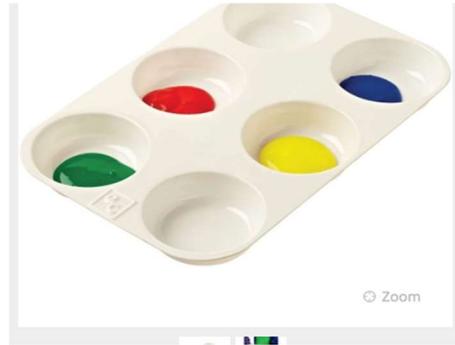


- 2 cheap acrylic brushes for shellac
- Sgraffito tools- pin tools
- 2 x metal ribs





- A couple of small jars for shellac
- sketchbook
- pens and pencils
- scissors
- camera or phone camera
- These paint palettes are the best
- You can also bring 6-8 lids from jars to use as palettes
- **Thrown greenware is sometimes available for a fee during the course of the workshop.*



Approximate material cost - \$260*

In this workshop, underglazes, clear glaze, stains, oxides, clay, ball clay and Shellac have been purchased by McGregor and the cost will be divided into the number of participants. ***The cost of \$135 including GST will be invoiced separately.** The group will be able to share any unused materials and take them home.

- **We think participants will want to take advantage of this pre order (of the final project bowls), as there won't be any stress in bringing the fragile greenware with you.**
- **This is an extra cost of \$139 for 6 bowls (\$16 each for the porcelain tea bowls (approx. 7cm high x 13cm wide) plus GST and \$26 each for the porcelain soup bowls approx. 9cm high x 15cm wide) plus GST.**

Please note: This the estimated material cost. Please note you may already have some items in your art wares collection.

If you have a question that is specifically about the materials – please contact your tutor via email – shannongarson72@gmail.com

Daily Schedule: 27 June – 1 July

Explore the world of ceramic colour, drawing and pattern without using glazes! Learn to throw fine porcelain! This is a workshop for all artists from ceramicists to painters and sculptors, through the week we will circle between making with clay and exploring form and mark making on ceramic forms using composition, colour, line and pattern. Practical tips and techniques underpin your creative expression. Learn to work in an intuitive, expressive way making beautiful, fine ceramic vessels or dynamic, ceramic sculptures, getting layered, sophisticated surfaces and balancing form and drawing.

Shannon's workshop begins with creative inspiration, through drawing, photography, clay, form, and music, developing your creativity underpins our entire workshop. This workshop is designed as an adventure, Shannon will give you tools and techniques but where you go and what you make is your own journey. We will expand your techniques, every day builds on what you have learnt, ranging from the importance of line, the true weight of volume, how to



solve technical design issues in all mediums from textiles to painting and clay, and what to do when you are at a creative dead end. Throughout the workshop we will flow between looking at form, exploring throwing, and hand building, working on the technical aspects of creating with clay and exploring mark making, drawing, patterns, and colours.

Designed as a creative boost for artists at every stage of their career, to germinate your ideas and give you techniques to create what you imagine!

Think about these questions:

- What is my favourite colour?
- What do I love eating?
- How does it make me feel?
- What is my favourite time of day?
- Write down some quotes from songs, poems, cookbooks that you are inspired by.
- What flowers remind me of my childhood?
- Stripes or spots?

Day One

MAKING PAPER CLAY-

- We'll explore the clay by rolling it into sausages and balls and then wedging toilet paper into it to make paper clay. This will encourage the students to explore the possibilities for manipulating the clay. Becoming familiar with the material, squishing and squashing and having fun!

SPHERE FACTORY

- Each student is to make 5 hollow ceramic spheres and pinch pots. This part of the project is to develop the student's 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.
- Make forms out of white clay and out of speckled red clay.

Blind Test Tiles



- Make 5 blind test tiles, little clay objects. Think about how to use form with your eyes closed, flat, hollow, round solid. This is the start of our exploration through form with our object diary, an inspiration activity that we will do every day of the workshop connecting our practical making mind to our imagination.

COLOUR MIXING

- Using underglazes, colour mixing and oxides. This part of the program will set up easy techniques mixing colour 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.
- We will practice on small tiles and our own bone dry work.

Day 2

PATTERN

- Today we will explore the use of pattern in our forms. We will 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. We'll be using shellac resist in combination with sgraffito.
- Pattern making- every tool has it 's own language. Exploration of mark making with our tools and brushes
- This afternoon we will start exploring form with a throwing demonstration.

Day 3

INSPIRATION

Many times, as an artist I have faced the unknown. With the tiniest thread of inspiration I've started a project only to get little way in and think, "I don't know what to do". Fear of the unknown is a constant challenge for an artist and over the years I've developed a variety of techniques that help me navigate deeper into those exciting, murky waters. This class is about that vast interior space where art comes from. 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.
- Throwing lessons continue with demonstrations and wheel work.

Day 4

HISTORY

- Workshop participants can bring along images of ceramics that have inspired them and images of colours, patterns, textiles photos from nature or art that they want to include in their 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.
- Turning demonstration and discussion of throwing historical forms and exploration of handles!
- Tonight, we have our final bisque going into the kiln.

Day 5

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.
- Tonight, we will fire our final 1280 firing.

Day 6

FINISHING WORK

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



Day 7

UNPACKING THE FINAL FIRING!

- There is so much in this workshop and 7 days gives you time to stretch your creative wings. As well as the activities on the program we will do field trips, lunches, critical evaluations, talk about professional practice, slideshows, music, inspirational lunches, throwing demonstrations and so much more!

Bring a Coffee mug –regular black tea and coffee, full cream milk and sugar **are** supplied by the School. **should you require decaf, herbal teas, other milk types or artificial sweeteners please bring your own supplies. We will have ‘tea rooms’ set up around campus with small fridges that you can keep your own supplies in.*

- Workshop runs 8.30am to 4.00pm with a light lunch provided at 12noon **only** on the weekend days. You must provide your own lunch Monday to Friday. Please note allergies will be catered for as best we can but depending on the level of dietary/allergy needed to be catered for this may incur a surcharge.