

November 2018

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Your ClayAround Newsletter

ClayAround



I am going to focus on gelli plates this month. What are gelli plates you ask? Well they are mono print plates normally associated with use with paper. Here is the [explanatory video](#) by the manufacturers. As you can see, the possibilities for clay are enormous. There are a number of clayers who already use gelli plates and have been doing so for many years. Look first at this lovely bracelet created by Syndee Holt (picture on the left) - the bangle far left has a green and yellow gelli plate base, whilst the other two have white. Gelli plate design lends itself to producing designs using masks, transfers, acrylic paints, textures, silk screens - and imagination. Sculpey have persuaded Syndee to produce [a tutorial](#) to give yo some ideas. From experience I have found that the 'shadow' image seems to be more interesting when using the gelli plate. That is the second image taken from the design you have created because, lets face it, one can surely just put a design directly onto ones clay. Top right you will see a shadow image produced with the gelli plate and a nail art transfer put on top (nail art transfers are used in the same way that foils are – they are burnished onto the clay) In [this tutorial](#) there is experimentation with alcohol inks and clay, and shows that the shadow image picked up from the geilli plate produces lovely results.

Predictably Ginger has experimented with gelli plates and clay - surprise, surprise there is a predominance of her [favourite blue](#)! I like this idea too, from PolymerclayTV, for [strips of gelli printed clay](#) have been put together to give a fascinating background. You can see her [youtube video](#) here (where she plays with

lots of other ideas too including screen printing)

Less is more with gelli plates- only a tiny amount of inexpensive acrylic paint (or heat set paints) need to be used. Whilst there isn't that much information on the Net about using gelli printing with polymer clay, there are numerous images using paper that are, of course, transferable ideas. These ideas [with gold](#) for a start are quite fascinating using layer over layer over layer. There are the inevitable Pinterest pages, one [here](#) and literally hundreds of ideas [here](#).

A marketing video is suggesting using their [wedge tools](#). We could make tools like that out of polymer clay....! Their video shows what [possibilities](#) there are. Lots of food for thought - and you may well have time to play over the holiday season.

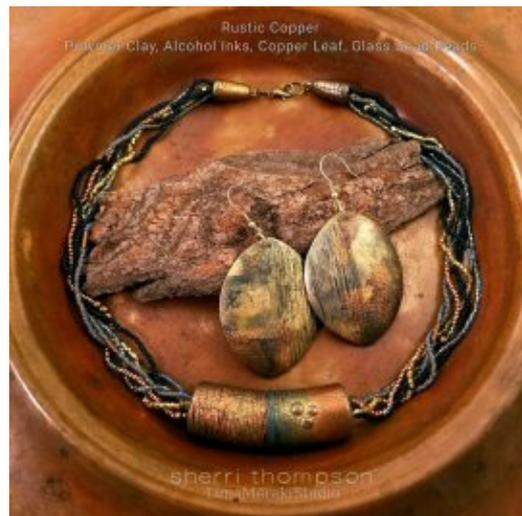


You won't be surprised to discover that I have put together a [gelli plate adventure kit](#). It includes a gelli plate and roller of course, plus a palette of inexpensive paints and a brush, some interesting stick on stencils to use as masks, And a selection of potential pattern makers.

How about these as a brilliant and unusual Christmas gift? (and remember of course, that they are also ideal for friends and family who aren't as addicted to polymer clay as you are, but who enjoy designing on paper!)

We also have a selection of new cutters from Mel Muir. She has produced some 'reverse' cutters that match the existing ones plus sets of twin cutters. Do [have a look](#).

[Remember too that you can give a ClayAround gift to your nearest and](#)



Sherri Thompson a 'stay at home' mum with two children , yet she manages to include creativity in every day. As an artist she has dabbled with many mediums, never truly satisfied, until she encountered Polymer clay. She says it was what she had been looking for because it keeps her interested, excited and inspired. She also told me that the claying community is wonderful , (as if we didn't know!), accepting and generous. She is drawn to orgaic designs, unique colour matchng and gorgeous textures. She loves mica shift, caning and mokume gane. She likes, too, the idea that everything she makes is one of a kind, and thus special, and hopes that people that buy her work enjoy what she has made as much as she enjoys making it - I personally

ClayAround gift to your nearest and dearest. Just contact me at gifts@clayaround.com stating how much you would like to gift. (£4.50 will be added to the amount to pay for the postage). Write and tell me a word you would like to have used to trigger the gift at cash out on the cart, and I will send you an invoice and set it up.

I will be back with the next newsletter at new year so of course I hope that you have the sort of holiday season that you want, be it exciting, or peaceful - and of course healthy.

love the pieces she shows us here. You can find her on Facebook (sdhe has just added her 'rustic collection to her FB page) and on Instagram under Luna Meraki Studio and this is her [etsy shop](#)

Post early for Christmas. ClayAround is only working with Royal Mail currently so they have final posting dates. For Europe it is 17 December. For UK their website is unclear (!) but do not risk ordering after 19 December. We will be available over the holiday season but will not guarantee that orders will arrive swiftly!

Artists are the people among us who realize creation didn't stop on the sixth day.

Joel Peter Wtikin

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