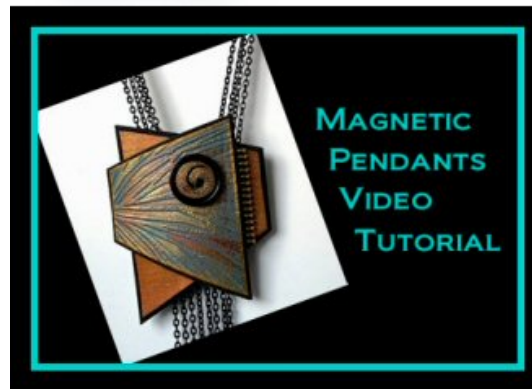


January 2017

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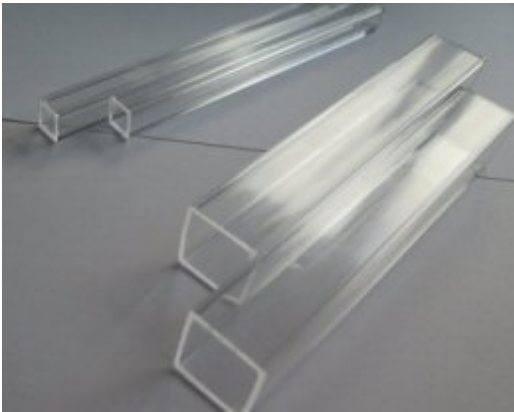
Today I want to talk about applique – or embroidery using polymer clay. But first I have been side-tracked for we have a discount offer especially for ClayAround from Helen Breil. You may, or may not know, that Helen has just produced her latest tutorial – using magnets (see the picture on the right). I have bought the tutorial and it is the usual exceptionally high standard of all her work be it her claying work, her videos or her writing. She has offered us a [10% discount](#) on the tutorial for the next couple of weeks. I highly recommend it.

Back to embroidery. You will find that all the links I have found are showing really interesting examples of using applique techniques with polymer clay. It is essentially for people who like producing delicate work. Researching took me back to the days when I used to make wedding cakes, for I recognise so many designs using iced petals. [These designs](#) have, for me, all evolved from cake icing techniques. I can direct you very early on to a pinterest page with [ideas and images](#), another pinterest page by [Kay Miller](#) with lots of fun pieces, and yet another [pinterest page](#):too.

I feel we don't really need tutorials for this topic as one can develop ideas from observation, but here is a [basic youtube tutorial](#) and [another](#) here (if you don't need to understand the commentary) and a [third one](#) also in a different language

need to understand the commentary, and a [link](#) she also in a different language (can't you tell I'm not a linguist). More flowers [here](#) from Lena and again [here](#). I can't resist directing you to our latest clayday where you will see amongst the images pictures of Hazel Smith [teaching us](#) a little about applique. Following on from what she taught us, for me these are some [winter theme pieces](#) of jewellery that are appealing and Hazel directed me to the work of Eva thissen "this is [something to aspire to](#).

Meanwhile you may wonder at the picture up left. That is my own interpretation of embroidery. As a base to the image is a photography of a quite beautiful heirloom shawl I own " all hand embroidered. The image top left of the picture is a close up of one of the embroidered sections, and bottom right of the image is my interpretation of "real" embroidery reproduced in polymer clay (Kato) " a fun project!



I have spent a long time sourcing these rods " and now we have them. You can buy a pair of [1/2" rods](#) and/or a pair of [1" rods](#) " they are so very valuable for cane makers. In particular they help when reducing, but you can also use them to make accurate angles and corners and are undoubtedly a particularly useful addition to your cane making tools.

We have been asked for [Original Sculpey White](#) " so we now have packs which are 1.75lb in weight.

Original Sculpey is mainly used as a base when sculpting, but of course has many other uses - particularly as it is white..

I am also delighted to say we have at



Akhila is a doctor and she lives in Bangalore in India. She has worked with polymer clay for three years, together with her brother Abishek (he is a software engineer), making polymer clay jewellery. They favour producing embroidery using applique techniques. She loves the miniature detailing that she says is great for both ethnic and modern jewellery but points out that the most challenging part of that work is to be consistent. She and her brother intend to venture into making other pieces, other than jewellery, in the near future. She has a Facebook page under the name of Zeitx and more examples of her work can be found [here](#).

[Our next Clayday is on March 17th](#)

I am also delighted to say we have, at long last, managed to acquire a full range of [Pinata Alcohol inks](#) – we have waited almost half a year for this delivery.

Well, there has been a lot of interest in the new transparent liquid clay about to be sold by Polyform. I have been promised that my supplier will have it available for us in May of this year. A reminder that polyform have already produced Silver liquid and gold liquid and pearl liquid which we already stock.

[2017, soon after Polymania - details here as usual.](#) All are welcome as ever.

You are aware, by now, that customer service matters to me. I have recently chosen to change the company that provides secure credit card payment. We now accept credit card payments on the shopping cart through Stripe. The previous provider was WorldPay . I have found that the customer service is far superior via Stripe!

The desire to create is one of the deepest yearnings of the human soul.

Dieter Utchtdorf

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