

This website will be a delight for all of you who want to learn more about your polymer clay: <http://lesethiopiques.over-blog.com/> It is a French site, but on the right hand side where it says Tuto there is a list of lots of exciting pictorial tutorials. If you really need to translate, then if you open a Google browser there is automatic translation for you so you can read the French. She is a very generous writer.

Then if you want some inspiration for beads (and some pleasant music to listen to...) look at this YouTube video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MFHTN0E24JE&feature=related>

If you are in the UK and you enjoy workshops Sue Heaser put on a timely workshop last week teaching how to add sparkle to ones work (and she has more to come: <http://www.sueheaser.com/pc-workshops>)

She told me that Mica Powder became evident as long ago as 1996 and in those days each piece of mica was corkscrew shaped. Because of its shape, when it was in some positions one could not get the full sparkle effect. The mica has since been made more cup shaped in order to offer much more shine.

It is such a versatile powder to use with ones clay because it can be put onto the surface of the clay with your fingers or a brush, or can be used as an inclusion. It of course has uses with other media on card and in wax (for candles) it is even used in car sprays and many people have added it to their face makeup because it is non toxic. (See our selection: <http://www.clayaround.com/admin/categories.php?cPath=26&osCAdminID=dd5da040e6fcb66e3aab4efdcf9122bd>)

The other additive that can brighten up your work are alcohol inks we have just bought a selection of the Pinata Color inks to add to our stock (that is as well as the Ranger collection):

<http://www.clayaround.com/index.php?cPath=27&osCsid=c50b0c8ba8d247c3d4f00b5d871c70a7>)

And of course the other sparkle aid is artificial gold, silver and copper sheets and Lisa Pavelka foils <http://www.clayaround.com/admin/categories.php?cPath=24&osCAdminID=dd5da040e6fcb66e3aab4efdcf9122bd> Note that foils are very different and require different techniques for applying to your clay to that used with sheets of artificial gold, silver and copper.

And a final note for Christmas is that if you know of anyone who is expressing an interest in Polymer clay you might like to invest in the ClayAround polymer clay starter kit it has in it everything anyone needs to start working with polymer clay.

http://www.clayaround.com/product_info.php?cPath=28&products_id=426 We have chosen to use Kato despite it being a slightly more difficult clay to condition, because what you see is what you get it is a clay that holds its colour and shape and will inevitably produce good results for the beginner. I am amazed at how popular it has been with mothers for their children....



We are offering this kit with a massive discount to all of you who have signed up to this newsletter (we know who I am sending the newsletter to....) so **despite the kit being advertised on the shopping cart for 24 it is available until the end of this year for 20** An ideal Christmas Present!

And I guess, although it is a month away, I will express the hope that you have a peaceful, successful (if appropriate - profitable), healthy Christmas season.

The truest wisdom is a resolute determination.
Napoleon Bonaparte

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