## July 2018

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## Your ClayAround Newsletter

## Con Around





Lindly Haunani is the 'colour queen' and produces the most beautiful combinations of colour in her work. Top right you will see examples of how she manages to put together a patchwork of colour in ways I, for one, wouldn't think! (This is a brooch I bought from her some time ago) Patchwork is a fascinating topic as, of course, it is such an ancient fabric art. Lindly is currently marketing a new workshop in which she emulates traditional patchwork using colour so magically (see the picture top left). She calls it 'Telling your Color Story: Harmonious Color Schemes' You will find more inspiration on her website

Lindley is not the first person to produce polymer patchwork however. Angela Barenholtz produced a colourful one pictured here and this is a patchwok collage all lit up! We have, of course found a classical patchwork design tutorial: tumbling patchwork and another tutorial of a classical design used to cover a container. These lovely patchwork beads from the same website show you what is possible for jewelery. So many people have used patchwork in jewellery. I have found some interesting ones including this bracelet and this brooch. (Granny squares no less!) Our own Cara Jane shows us here how to make scraps of clay into a lovely patchwork pendants.

And then there are other ideas. Here's <u>a box</u>. There are <u>lots of ideas</u> on this site if you scroll down to find them or more from <u>Indigo Blu</u>.

Finally there are tangential ideas for one has to include the wonderful work of <u>Laurie</u> <u>Mika</u> that is actually work making tiles (and this Pinterest page shows mostly work

that has been inspired by her) but is self evidently patchwork.

If you want another patchwork idea maybe you would like to resurrect your skills with the watercolour technique, a fine example of which is here by <u>Maggie Maggio</u>: the other colour genius.

There is plenty of inspiration if patchwork is something that appeals to you!



I am experimenting with lots of new stock ideas. I bought some different Inka gold simply because of the striking colours. I have tested it on Souffle, Premo, Pardo, Fimo and Kato and am delighted: It polishes to a beautiful shimmering metalic shine. it has the advantage, too, of being in a tube, so will not have the irritating habit of drying up so easily as the regular Inka gold does (although regular Inka gold will rejuvenate easily with a little water mixed into it). You can find the Premium Inka gold here

When I renewed all the pan pastels (they are so very versatile) I decided that gift pack might appeal to someone in the next few months, so here it is. A pack with 7 basic colours, a collection of their sponge shapes and a tray holder with a cover.

There seems to be a resurgence of interest in the <u>Fat Daddios</u> cutters so there is a container full of them on its way from America: Watch for them to appear on the cart. ( However they have stopped making the 'half moon'



Sharon Murphy, like so many of us has been a crafter for most of her life. Dressmaking, interior design (this latter her degree subject), and jewellery making were her main interests. As a result of the jewellery making she saw a tutorial connecting PMC and polymer and 'that's how it started' she tells me. She not only sells her work but she also teaches and writes tutorials (one was recently featured in Making Jewellery Magazine in April 2018) She lives in a cottage in Wexford with her teenage daughter, her husband and 5 cats, 2 dogs, 2 ponies and a duck! She says she loves all things vintage, pink and flowery (as well as being passionate about animals). Polymer gives her inspiration for her love of colour when making canes or veneers and the resulting beads. She favours Mokume Gane (see the above picture) and enjoys the surprise once she starts to slice. Her main pursuit is making buttons, beads and accessories for knitters. It is so interesting that so many people shape)

I have some old stock of Kato clay. It is of the original constituents. I have made that available on the new sale section on the shopping cart (labelled 'reduced stock'). Many people covert the old Kato so snap it up because there isn't much left!

No claydays here still although we have had a couple of 'newbies' visiting and I am excited by their enthusiasm. However, next month we will be able to announce a new venture in workshop format here at the Welsh claying group.

If you live around here (Wales and Shropshire that is) Debbie Shaw, one of our regular clayers, has decided to start up 'The Shropshire Polymer Clay Group. She will be having meetings on alternative months (the intention being we will fit in with this arrangement for our workshops here). You can find details on the Guild website, the first meeting being on Saturday 29th Setpember at 10am.

who favour polymer clay come to it from many other crafts. I have a belief that, like Sharon, we who do this have a desire for 'difference' and want to discover more and more and more new ways of doing/making/creating things, and polymer clay is one of the few crafts that satisfies that need. Sharon is one of the administrators for the new and very vibrant Irish Polymer Clay Guild. You can find her own Facebook business page if you search for 'The Bead and Button Emporium'. I have just noticed that last month, on her Facebook page, she preempted the patchwork topic by sharing a picture of an interesting piece do have a look!

I have mentioned before that Angie Scarr has started a Patreon programme. <u>Here</u> is a taste of the sort of thing she will be offering on a regular basis. For as little as one dollar a month enthusiastic clayers can collect lots of information and skills through joining this programme.

For me, the creative process is this giant patchwork of information

Jonathan Anderson

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