



The Gilding Arts Newsletter

...an educational resource
for Gold Leaf Gilding

CHARLES DOUGLAS
GILDING STUDIO
Seattle, WA

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June 24, 2019

Gilding for Works of Art...a Study for Fine Artists

The use of gold leaf and other precious and non-precious metal leafs continue to attract the imaginations of artists today as it has centuries before. Fine artists continue to discover ext

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raordinary ways of incorporating leaf into their creations, whether through the practice of sacred Iconography or the gilding of Buddhas or as gold and silver grounds for hyper-realistic pop-surrealistic paintings, the options of using the techniques and materials for gilding seem limitless.



Gum Ammoniac, a gum-resin from the herb Dorema Ammoniacum

During the last five years of offering the class *Gilding for Works of Art...a Study for Fine Artists*, I have had the privilege of meeting an extraordinary group of artists seeking to grow their skills in gilding and to discover new realms of working with the beauty and delicacy of gold leaf while also discovering other metal leaves to augment their works of art such as Palladium, Caplain, and Moon Gold.

To help further our understanding of good practices and gilding principles while discovering various techniques and perhaps somewhat exotic materials to work and experiment with, I am introducing this new column to the Gilding Arts Newsletter. It's here where we'll discuss the methods of Traditional Water Gilding for use on painted panels and Mordant Gilding which extends to works of art on canvas, paper, fabric, and other surf

aces. We will address some of the pressing questions that many have: Should I gild first or paint first? Should I begin by using the *imitation* leaf? How do I handle this leaf that blows away everytime I breathe??! :)



Pastiglia - dripped gilder's gesso - on India paper.

I also encourage those of you with questions of working with gold or silver leaf as an element of your artwork to email me your questions so I can then respond within the newsletter for the benefit of all. Although time may not allow for personal responses I will attempt to answer, or find the answer, to your questions and include your observations where applicable. (The best address to email me is charles.studio@usa.net).

In the upcoming newsletter we'll begin by looking at the use of gold leaf in the works of art of the Oil Painter: the options, pitfalls, and tips. (

Good timing for sending in those questions!).



23kt Gold Leaf embedded in a mass of oil paint on canvas.

Meanwhile, there are several locations for study coming up both this Summer and Fall which you'll see below. I'm also excited about sharing some different mordants for you to experiment with such as gum ammoniac, garlic, and PVA glue (yes, Elmer's!) - from the medieval to the contemporary.

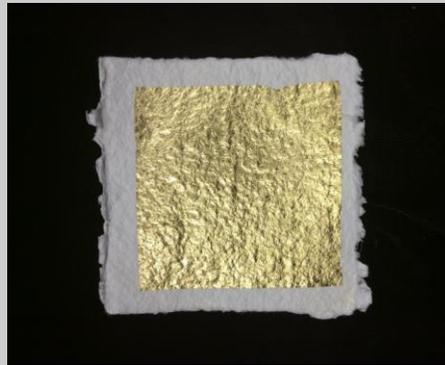
See you in the next issue...or class (or both!).

Happy fourth day of Summer!

Peace, health, and clarity,

Charles

**Register Now for
Summer & Fall
Gilding Workshops
2019!**



**Gold Leaf Gilding for Works of Art
on Canvas, Paper, & Panels
*...a Study for Fine Artists***

Students explore the various methods of working with gold and silver leaf to create a gilded ground as an element of composition for painting. Discover the many uses of gilding within works of art through hands-on demos and exercises including the gilding of high-relief as embellishment, traditional water gilding, and the use of glair and clay bole as

mordants for gilding. Students may bring a personal work of art to class to explore gilding or to discuss (optional).

Seattle

Charles Douglas Gilding Studio

July 12, 2019

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July 21, 2019

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New York City

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Georgian Bay Art Conservation

October 5, 2019

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~

*Newsletter Member Discount Tuition: \$250
(General Website Tuition \$275)*

Gold Leaf, Materials and Use of tools included.

Optional gilding kits available.

Traditional Water Gilding 2019



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Introduction to Traditional Water Gilding

Be guided through each of the steps of this beautiful, ancient method of gold leaf gilding for use on such objects as picture frames, furniture, and architectural detail. Students will learn to prepare rabbit skin glue, traditional gesso, and clay bole grounds followed by laying and burnishing genuine 22 kt gold leaf.

Individual guidance is provided in developing the skills to handle gold leaf using the gilder's tools and brushes. Basic elements of toning will be demonstrated

San Francisco, CA

Artist and Craftsman Supply

July 19-20, 2019

[Buy Now](#)

~

Seattle, WA

Charles Douglas Gilding Studio

**Water Gilding with Crackle Gesso,
July and September (Seattle Only)!**

July 23-25, 2019

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New York City

Sepp Leaf Products

September 17-19, 2019

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Portland, OR

MPF Conservation

December 6-8, 2019

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Louisville, KY

Fall Dates to be Announced!

*(Awaiting Venue Confirmation for Mid October for a
2-Day Water Gilding with Crackle Gesso class and
Gilding for Works of Art - stay tuned!)*

~

*Gilding Arts Newsletter Member Discount Applied
Gold Leaf, Materials and Use of tools included.
Optional gilding kits available.*

Glass Gilding/Verre Églomisé 2019



Glass Gilding...

The Foundation of Verre Églomisé

Learn the beautiful ancient art of reverse glass gilding and discover the steps involved in achieving a strong and brilliant bond between glass and leaf.

Students will learn to properly clean the glass, prepare gelatin size and glair, gild the glass with genuine white gold and be introduced to the concept of engraving the gilding in reverse before the final step of backpainting.

New York City

Isabel O'Neil Studio

September 14, 2019

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Seattle, WA

Charles Douglas Gilding Studio

September 28, 2019

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Owen Sound, Ontario

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Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada

2019



**Oct. 7-9, 2019
Gold Leaf Restoration
and
Gilding Beveled Mats
for Picture Framing**

~

**Oct. 6, 2019
Glass Gilding/Verre Eglomise**

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**Oct. 5, 2019
Gilding for Works of Art...
a Study for Fine Artists
(including the preparation of Gum Ammoniac,
a Medieval Gum-Resin for Paper)**

This new three-day Workshop, Gold Leaf Restoration and Gilding Beveled Mats introduces students to the essential methods and techniques of gold leaf restoration including the preparation and use of gesso putty for infilling, mould casting for the repair of broken or missing decorative elements and the basics of traditional water gilding, oil gilding, and toning.

Students will also learn to create simple and

attractive gilded bevel mats for picture framing using the mordant gilding method using genuine gold, white gold, bronze, and aluminum leaf. A fun and informative three days not to be missed!

Materials, gold leaf, and use of studio tools included. Students will take home the project they gild in class with recipe handouts for making old world gilder's gesso and clay bole!.

Owen Sound, Ontario

Georgian Bay Art Conservation

Gold Leaf Restoration & Gilded Bevels

October 7-9, 2019

[Buy Now](#)

~

Owen Sound, Ontario

Georgian Bay Art Conservation

Glass Gilding:

The Foundation of Verre Eglomise

October 6, 2019

[Buy Now](#)

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Owen Sound, Ontario

Georgian Bay Art Conservation

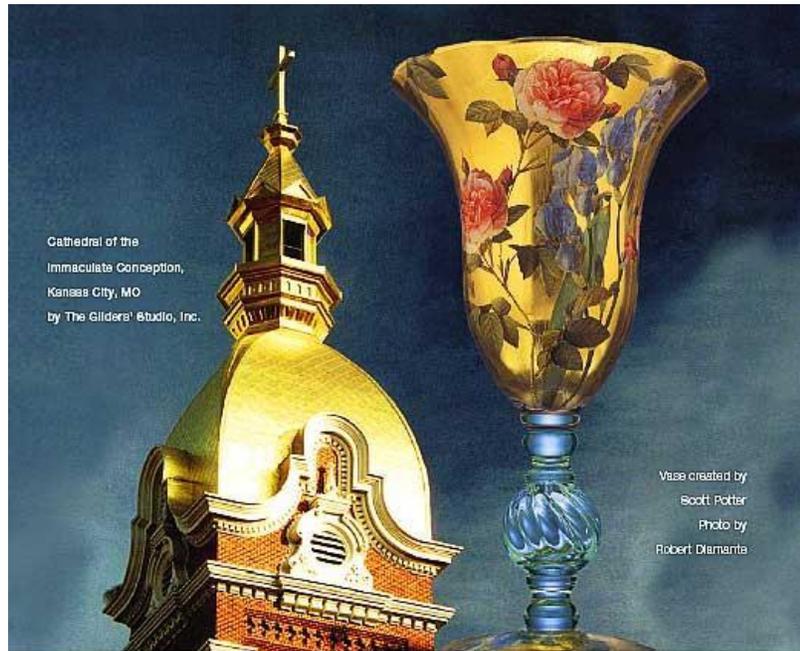
**Gilding for Works of Art
...a Study for Fine Artists**

October 5, 2019

[Buy Now](#)

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Cathedral of the
Immaculate Conception,
Kansas City, MO
by The Gilders' Studio, Inc.

Vase created by
Scott Potter
Photo by
Robert Diamante

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periodically publishes
technical information
concerning the various
methods of gold leaf

gilding. Some of these topics are in series formats
such as the series on Traditional Water Gilding.



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