

# The Gilding Arts Newsletter

*...an educational resource for Gold Leaf Gilding*



CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO



## Gilding Classes!

### New York City

January 28, 2025 (*Absolute Beginners*)

January 29-31, 2025 (*Water Gilding*)

February 1, 2025 (*Gilding for Works of Art*)

CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO

AND SEPP LEAF PRODUCTS SPONSOR OF THE GILDING ARTS NEWSLETTER

Register at: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

*Greetings from the Gilding Studio*

Dear Friends,

A quick note to everyone as I get ready to leave the Pacific Northwest for New York City, cold and all! The best thing for everyone to do now is bundle up, come to class, and warm up at the Showroom Studio of

**Sepp Leaf!**



There are a few seats left for the NY Absolute Beginners Class on Tuesday, January 28 and designed to get you on the right path for learning this ancient art while introducing you to some new Contemporary materials. It's filling up so you might want to hop on this one quickly. Water Gilding has some space as well the following days January 29-31.

After this adventure to NY it's off to **Christchurch, New Zealand** in April, **Kelowna, British Columbia** in June, and **Logan, Utah** in September. So if you're nearby or up for a little traveling this year, come join us for some exciting Gilding Studies in these enchanting areas! Plus of course a return to NY in June and October and beautiful Whidbey Island (Home Sweet Home!) throughout the year.

As always, I'll be curating the journey through the days ahead while in New York next week so keep your eye on Instagram (and our next Newsletter

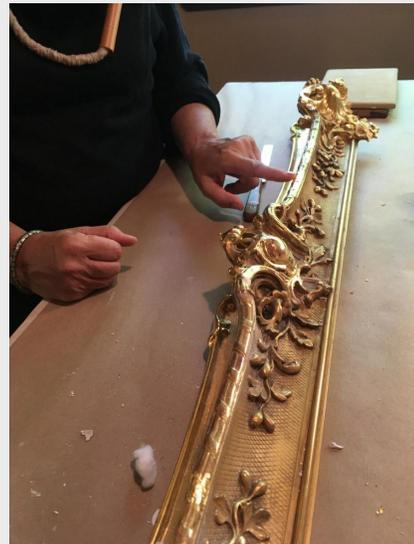
with the new Klimt Contest Book Giveaway which I'll be perusing the giftshop for at the [Neue Galerie](#) when I breakaway to study the Adele Bloch-Bauer...).

Meanwhile, there are a few things of note below so happy reading, speak again soon...and stay warm!

Peace, health, and clarity,  
Charles

## Glad You Asked That! *...Questions from Members*

*Q. What if a frame is dusty and the gold is dirty, "darkened"? How do you clean old gold? Besides a brush, do you clean the gold with any product/solvent? ~ S.L., NY*



A. There are a number of various materials a Restorer or Conservator may use when needing to clean a gilded surface such as Water Gilded Picture Frames. However, it isn't a task that I recommend unless a gilder or student is sufficiently trained in the various methods and techniques of gilding. One wrong move and a historical gilded Finish can be removed and lost forever. Many French and Italian frames do not have a protective coating so knowledge and care is paramount. Solvents can quickly remove oil gilding, pure water can remove water gilding. Plus,

what may appear as dirt could be an intentional applied Patina while *old gold* could actually be silver coated with layers of Dragon's Blood and Gamboge.

That said, a weak rabbit skin glue solution may be considered. In gilding language it's a solution referred to by a ratio of 1 Part 10% RSG (Rabbit Skin Glue) to 4 Parts Distilled Water. So we just say 1 to 4 and gilders who restore will know what this means. Some use a weaker solution such as 1:5 or 1:7. It can remove the surface dirt while leaving a thin protective film of rabbit skin glue. (There's a wonderful chapter on this topic by Stanley Robinson in the Book [\*Gilded Wood Conservation and History\*](#) by Deborah Bigelow).

Other cleaning materials include [\*Vulpex\*](#) or a weak, 10% Ammonia/Water solution. But as you mentioned, the first step would be your soft Squirrel Hair Mop such as the #819 Squirrel Hair Mop from [\*Gilded Planet\*](#) for gentle dusting into a handheld vacuum. (Watch for an Online Introduction to Gold Leaf Restoration Class for 2025-2026). Thanks for writing, great question! ~

## Goings On...*In the Gilding Artworld*

I'm still pushing this one as it's such an extraordinary example of 14thc Italian Egg Tempera



Gilded Panels, the same method and techniques of

gilding we do in the Water Gilded Panels classes:  
**Siena: The Rise of Painting, 1300-1350** is an Exhibit at [The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#) in New York. January 26 is the last day so try to make it if you can. The [Frick](#) Museum also has a wonderful Collection of gilded egg tempera panels so put that on your calendar when they re-open this Spring! .... And of special note, **Frances Federer**, friend, colleague, and author of the book [Gold Leaf, Paint, & Glass](#), one of our few Contemporary experts on the art of Verre Églomisé, will be featured in the exhibit: Szutka refleksji | The Art of Reflection at [Galicja Zydowskie Muzeum | Galicia Jewish Museum](#) in Kraków, Poland. The opening is February 20, 2025. Watch the museum's [website](#) for updates and go if you can (plus her book is wonderful too for those who are interested in the glass gilding arts!)...An interesting Exhibit coming up at the [Salmagundi Arts Club](#) at 5th and 12th in NY, **Into the Night: nocturnes** opens January 28th which is when I'll be there with a Reception open to all (rsvp required) February 6. (Makes me think of Dutch Black Frames with gilded edges! :))...



# New Zealand 2025 Gilding Classes in Canterbury Christchurch, NZ [April 24, 25, 26, 27, 2025](#)

## Upcoming Gilding Classes

(View the [Website](#) for the Full Schedule)



**Gilding...  
for Absolute Beginners!**

In-Person Class  
New York City  
January 28, 2025

CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO  
AT THE SEPP LEAF PRODUCTS SHOWROOM STUDIO  
Register at: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

**(In-Person) Gilding For  
Absolute Beginners!**

**New York City  
Sepp Leaf Products Showroom  
Studio**

**January 28, 2025**

**Class Limit: *3 Seats Left!***

READ MORE and REGISTER  
HERE ~ Gilding For Absolute  
Beginners ~ January 28, 2025 ~  
(\$275)



**Traditional  
Water Gilding**  
For Picture Frames and Panels  
New York City  
**January 29 - 31, 2025**  
*Plus!... June 4-6 & October 8-10, 2025*  
CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO  
AND SEPP LEAF PRODUCTS SPONSOR OF THE GILDING ARTS NEWSLETTER  
Register at: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

**(In-Person) Traditional  
Water Gilding For Picture  
Frames and Panels**

**New York  
Sepp Leaf Products Showroom  
Studio**

**January 29-31, 2025**

**Class Limit: 9 Students**

READ MORE and  
REGISTER HERE ~  
Traditional Water Gilding  
For Frames and Panels ~  
January 29-31, 2025 ~ (\$750)



**Gilding for Works of Art**  
*...a Study for Fine Artists*  
New York City  
*At the Isabel O'Neil Studio*  
**February 1, 2025**  
CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO  
AND SEPP LEAF PRODUCTS SPONSOR OF THE GILDING ARTS NEWSLETTER  
Register at: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

**(In-Person, Registration Closes  
Soon!)**

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

**New York  
Isabel O'Neil Studio  
February 1, 2025**

**Class Limit: 10 Students**

READ MORE and REGISTER  
HERE - (In Person) - Gilding For  
Works of Art, Feb. 1, 2025  
(\$275)

**(Online) Gilding For Works  
of Art...a Study for Fine  
Artists**  
**February 4-25, 2025**



**Gilding  
For Works of Art**  
*Zoom! Online ~ Weekly*  
**February 4 - 25, 2025**

*Plus!* July and October Dates  
11:00am PST (2:00pm EST)

CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO  
AND SEPP LEAF PRODUCTS SPONSOR OF THE GILDING ARTS NEWSLETTER  
Register: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

**Live on Zoom and Recorded  
Q & A each Weekly Session**

READ MORE and REGISTER  
HERE ~ (Online) Gilding For  
Works of Art ~ February 4-25,  
2025 (\$275)



**Gilding....  
for Absolute Beginners!**  
*Zoom! Online*  
**February 5-26, 2025!**

11:00am PST (2:00pm EST)

CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO  
AND SEPP LEAF PRODUCTS SPONSOR OF THE GILDING ARTS NEWSLETTER  
Register at: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

**(Online) Gilding For  
Absolute Beginners**  
**February 5-26, 2025**

**Live on Zoom and Recorded  
Q & A each Weekly Session**

READ MORE and REGISTER  
HERE - (Online) Gilding For  
Absolute Beginners: February 5-  
26, 2025 (\$250)

*Creating the Antique*  
**Dutch Black Finish**  
*...With a 23k Gold Leaf Gilded Inner Edge*



*Zoom! Online Class*  
**March 4 - April 14, 2025**  
11:00am PST (2:00pm EST)  
CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO  
AND SEPP LEAF PRODUCTS, INC. SPONSOR OF THE GILDING ARTS NEWSLETTER  
register: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

**(Online) Creating the  
Antique Dutch Black Finish  
with Gilded Inner Edge**  
**March 4 - April 14, 2025**  
**Sept. 2 - Oct. 28,**

**Live on Zoom and Recorded  
Q & A each Week!**

READ MORE and REGISTER  
HERE ~ (Online) The Antique  
Dutch Black Finish with Gilded  
Inner Edge for Picture Frames ~  
March 4 - April 14, 2025 (\$350)

**(Online) The Art of  
Gilding Paper**

**New!** The Art of  
**Gilding Paper**  
 Traditional Raised Gesso  
 Flat Gilding with Ancient Mordants  
 Raised Images with Contemporary Mordants



Zoom! Online  
 March 5 - May 28, 2025  
11am PST (2pm EST)  
 CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO AND SEFF LEAF PRODUCTS  
 Register at: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

- Traditional Raised Gesso
- Flat Gilding with Ancient Mordants
- Contemporary Gilded Relief

**March 5 - May 28, 2025**

**Live on Zoom and Recorded  
 Q & A each week!**

READ MORE and REGISTER  
 HERE ~ (Online) The Art of  
 Gilding Paper - March 5-May 28,  
 2025 (\$475)



GOLD LEAF GILDING CLASSES  
 WHIDBEY ISLAND, WA  
**Gilding For  
 Works of Art**  
*...a Study for Fine Artists*  
 In-Person  
**March 22, 2025**  
November 8, 2025  
 CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO  
 Register at: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

**(In-Person)**  
**Gilding For Works of Art....**  
*a Study for Fine Artists*

**Whidbey Island, WA**  
**March 22, 2025**

READ MORE and REGISTER  
 HERE ~ (In-Person) Gilding For  
 Works of Art, March 22, 2025  
 (\$275)



The Arts Centre  
 Christchurch, New Zealand  
 Water Gilded Frames & Panels  
 April 24 - 26, 2025  
*Gilding for Absolute Beginners!*  
 April 27  
 CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO  
 Register at: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

**(Christchurch, New Zealand)**  
**Traditional Water Gilded  
 Frames and Panels ~ April 24-  
 26, 2025**

**Gilding For Absolute  
 Beginners! ~ April 27, 2025**

**The Arts Centre  
 2 Worcester Blvd.  
 Canterbury  
 Christchurch, New Zealand**

READ MORE and REGISTER  
HERE ~ (Christchurch, New  
Zealand) Traditional Water  
Gilded Frames and Panels Plus  
Gilding For Absolute Beginners -  
April 24 -27, 2025



Traditional  
Water Gilded Panels  
*...from Pastiglia to Sgraffito!*

Zoom! Online  
May 9 - August 1, 2025

11am PST (2pm EST)  
CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO AND SEPP LEAF PRODUCTS  
Register at: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

**(Online) Traditional Water  
Gilded Panels...*from  
Pastiglia to Sgraffito!***

**May 9 - August 1, 2025**

**Live on Zoom and Recorded  
Q & A each week!**

READ MORE and REGISTER  
HERE ~ (Online) Traditional  
Water Gilded Panels...from  
Pastiglia to Sgraffito! - May 9 -  
August 1, 2025 (\$475)



Gilded Metals  
*Preparation, Undercoat,  
Oil Gilding in 23k Gold Leaf*

Zoom! Online  
May 6 - 27, 2025

11am PST (2pm EST)  
CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH SEPP LEAF PRODUCTS  
Register: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

**(Online) *New!*  
Gilded Metals  
May 6 - 27, 2025**

**Live on Zoom and Recorded**

READ MORE and REGISTER  
HERE ~ (Online) Gilded Metals,  
May 6-27, 2025 (\$275)

**(Online) *New!*  
Traditional Water Gilded  
Picture Frames  
August 8 - September 26,  
2025**

**Live on Zoom and Recorded**



An Online Course For  
**Traditional Water Gilded  
Picture Frames**

*Zoom! Online*  
**Aug. 8 - Sept. 26, 2025**

11am PST | 2pm EST  
CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO  
AND SEPP LEAF PRODUCTS SPONSOR OF THE GILDING ARTS NEWSLETTER  
Register: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

**READ MORE and REGISTER  
HERE (Online) Traditional  
Water Gilded Picture Frames,  
August 8 - September 26, 2025  
(\$350)**



**Traditional  
Water Gilding  
For Furniture**

*Zoom! Online*  
**Oct. 15 - Dec. 30, 2025**

11am PST (2pm EST)  
CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO AND SEPP LEAF PRODUCTS  
Register at: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

**(Online) *New!*  
Traditional Water Gilding  
for Furniture  
Oct. 15 - Dec. 30, 2025**

**Live on Zoom and Recorded**

**READ MORE and REGISTER  
HERE ~ (Online) Traditional  
Water Gilding for Furniture, Oct.  
15 - Dec. 30, 2025 (\$495)**



**Gold Leaf Gilding Classes**  
*Zoom! Online & In-Person*

Water Gilding ~ Oil Gilding ~ Glass Gilding  
Verre Églomisé ~ Restoration ~ Gesso  
Gilding for Absolute Beginners  
Gilding for Works of Art ~ Sgraffito ~ Pastiglia  
CHARLES DOUGLAS GILDING STUDIO  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH SEPP LEAF PRODUCTS SPONSOR OF THE GILDING ARTS NEWSLETTER  
Register: [gildingstudio.com](http://gildingstudio.com)

**More Online and In Person  
Classes Scheduled for 2025!  
Water Gilding, Glass  
Gilding, Gilding Metals,  
Raised Gesso *and more!***

**[Click Here](#) to View the Current  
Schedule for 2025 with more classes  
coming! Now Open For Registration  
for All Online and In-Person Gilding  
Classes as well as [Archive](#)  
[Recordings](#) of previous Live Zoom  
Classes.**

***For Students Needing Gilding Kits...***

.... You can read about the kits and some preliminary information on my website at [www.gildingstudio.com](http://www.gildingstudio.com). For further information you can either contact Gilded Planet or drop me a note at the [gilding studio](http://gildingstudio.com) and I'll help guide you. Plus, when you're ready, I can pass along a special Promo Code just for students (a quick [email to me](mailto:me) is all you need)!

## *Student Gilding Kits from GildedPlanet.com!*



A Special *Thank You* to [Sepp Leaf Products, Inc.](http://SeppLeafProducts.com), Sponsor of the Gilding Arts Newsletter. Helping to further the Educational Resources for Our International Community!

Plus a thankful nod to our friends at [Gildedplanet.com](http://Gildedplanet.com) for helping to provide the gilding kits, tools, and supplies!

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

Vase created by Scott Rottler  
Photo by Robert Diemanta

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Contact the Gilding  
Studio



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