



Dogwood and Leaf Bowl

This simple technique produces fantastic results. The technique can be extended to create very large, sculptural pieces.



The piece requires about fourteen to sixteen cast leaves and three blossoms. How these are created will depend on the size of your kiln and the number of molds you have.

Prior to each filling and firing, it is very important to prime the molds with Hotline Primo Primer. Mix one part Hotline Primo Primer with five parts water. Mix thoroughly. Apply four coats of primer with a soft brush. Let the primer dry completely between each ap-

plication. A hairdryer can be used to speed this process. Make sure to keep the primer thoroughly mixed by giving the mixture a good stir each time you dip your brush.

Starting with the dogwood blossoms: Make a small cone of one to two grams of citron frit in the center of each blossom. To give the blossom its pink blush, sprinkle four to six grams of urobium pink frit on the outer edge of each blossom. Evenly layer ten grams of



almond opal in the medium blossom and fifteen grams in the large blossom. The last layer – the backing layer – in each blossom is water clear. Evenly distribute twenty grams of water clear frit in the medium blossom and twenty-five in the larger of the two blossoms. Each blossom will be filled within about one quarter inch of the top of the mold.

Next, fill the leaf mold (or molds): Each mold has three leaves. The middle leaf is slightly larger and requires more frit. Put twenty to twenty-five grams of citron frit



into the outer two leaves. Put thirty to thirty-five grams in the center leaf.

Put your molds on an elevated kiln shelf and fire them according to the following schedule:

Casting Schedule

- Seg 1 300°F/hour to 1420°F, Hold 10 minutes
- Seg 2 Cool (no venting) to 960°F, Hold 20 minutes
- Seg 3 Off, Cool kiln no venting

Wait until the mold is completely cool and remove it from the kiln. The castings should fall out. If one of

Availability

Colour de Verre molds are available at fine glass retailers and many online merchants including our online store, www.colourdeverre.com.

Tools

- ✓ One or more Colour de Verre Dogwood (Large and Medium), Leaves, and Bowl Slumper molds
- ✓ Large and small primer brushes
- ✓ Balance or digital scale

Supplies

- ✓ Hotline Primo Primer
- ✓ Fine Citron, Urobium Pink, Almond Opal, and Water Clear frit (schedules for Uroboros COE 96)
- ✓ Quick-drying, white glue

the pieces is stubborn, turn mold face-down and tap it against a hard surface cushioned with several layers of newsprint.

If there are any spurs, use a diamond pad or grinder to remove them.

If you need to repeat firings to create all the leaves and blossoms, thoroughly clean the molds with a stiff nylon kitchen brush and toothbrush between every firing to remove all the old primer. Avoid breathing any dust by wearing a proper dust mask.

Once you have made the necessary leaves and blossoms, the next step is to collage the cast elements in the bowl slumper.

Prime a Colour de Verre bowl slumper with four coats of Hotline Primo Primer. Again, let every coat dry before applying the next.

Starting in the center and building up the sides, arrange the blossoms



and leaves into a pleasing design. Make sure every piece has good contact with its neighbors. Use a drop of thick, quick-drying, white

glue to hold the pieces in place as you work.

Place the filled bowl slumper in the kiln. The bowl slumper should be elevated by three kiln posts lying on their sides so that heat can circulate under the slumper.

Tack and slump – in one step – the pieces according to the following schedule.

Tack Fuse and Slump Schedule

- Seg 1 300°F/hour to 1260-1300°F, Hold 5 minutes
- Seg 2 Cool (no venting) to 960°F, Hold 60 minutes
- Seg 3 Cool at 60°F/hour to 700°F
- Seg 4 Off, Cool (no venting)

Note: These schedules are for Uroboros COE 96 glass. Exact temperatures will depend on your particular kiln. You may substitute your favorite brand and color frit. Fire COE 90 glass about 10 to 20° F hotter.