

# UNIT 3

## OVERGLAZE

### Requirements:

(Refer to requirements Unit 1-4 on page 2)

### Basic Information:

#### Overglazes:

- (1) Are usually applied over a glaze.
- (2) May also be applied over polished Porcelain bisque.
- (3) Are mostly used for decorative purposes. Most overglazes, fuse to, but do not become part of the glaze. For that reason, they are mainly used for decorative rather than utility items. **Check with the manufacturer for food safe information.**

#### Types of the most common overglazes:

- (1) Lustres:
  - (a) Gold
  - (b) Platinum
  - (c) Copper
  - (d) Halo Gold
  - (e) Halo Platinum
  - (f) Mother of Pearl
- (2) Decals
- (3) Enamel
- (4) China paste
- (5) China paint



**It is very important to read all labels for recommended application and firing instructions.**

*Have your project leader, parent and/ or ceramic studio help you choose your greenware and overglazes. They will be able to assist you in your choices and guide you.*

Keep accurate notes as you proceed.

Evaluate each of your projects using the guide for judging on page 8.

# UNIT 3

## OVERGLAZE

### PROJECT 1

#### Basic Information:

- (1) You will be learning how to apply a decal and Mother of Pearl.
- (2) Most decal designs are made with China paint and/or enamels on a film. The film fires away and the design fuse onto the glaze.
- (3) When using decals and Mother of Pearl on the same piece, always apply and fire the decal first. Decals require a hotter firing than the Mother of Pearl.
- (4) *Repeating members and seniors may create an original design using a variety of different patterns and sizes when using decals.*
- (5) This project will be considered as one of your required pieces. **Learning projects are usually not entered in competition.**
- (6) You may be using some of the tools from Unit 1 and Unit 2.
- (7) Other tools and brushes you may need to purchase:
  - (a) Squeegee for applying decals.
  - (b) Turntable to aid you when you are applying lustres.
  - (c) Camel hair round brush (#4 or #6) to be used with Mother of Pearl.
- (8) You will learn more new ceramic terms from your leader.

#### Steps for Decal:

- (A) Select suitable greenware (tile or any smooth surface piece).
- (B) Prepare work area with suitable covering.
- (C) **Follow the safety rules.** Refer to page 3.
- (D) Clean greenware as outlined on page 4. Initial and date the bottom of the piece.
- (E) Have your greenware fired to the proper cone size.
- (F) Keep accurate notes as you proceed .

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- (G) Prepare work area.
- (H) After cleaning the kiln dust from the piece, apply gloss glaze of your choice, with your Nylon glaze brush.
- (I) Clean your brush with soap and water. Rinse and reshape the brush.
- (J) Fire your piece to the proper cone size.

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- (K) Prepare work area.
- (L) Clean the tile to be decorated, and the work tile, with denatured alcohol.

Continued on the next page

# UNIT 3

## OVERGLAZE

- (M) Place the decal in water until decal curls up tightly. The water should be room temperature or luke warm.
- (N) Remove the decal from the water and place on the cleaned work tile until the decal unfurls.
- (O) With the backing paper still in place, position the decal face up on the piece. Holding the decal in position with your thumb, gently slip out the backing paper.
- (P) If you are having a problem, removing the backing paper, ask your leader for helpful suggestions.
- (Q) Slide the squeegee over the backing paper to remove some of the adhesive. This will let the squeegee slide across the decal without tearing it. Work out all of the water and air bubbles, working from the center out, in all directions.
- (R) Clean the squeegee with soap and water, rinse and let it dry.
- (S) Allow decal to dry twelve hours before firing. Read decal packaging for proper firing cone.

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### Steps for Mother of Pearl:

- (A) **Wash the new brush with soap and water, at home, so it has time to dry before the next workshop. Label your brush “Mother of Pearl”.**
- (B) Prepare work area.
- (C) Clean the glazed project piece, the work tile, and the camel hair round brush with the denatured alcohol and let dry.
- (D) Wear rubber gloves or use paper towel while placing the piece on a turntable.
- (E) Load the round camel hair brush with Mother of Pearl, clean one side of the brush on the side of the bottle, to remove excess. **The brush should not be loaded to the metal ferrule.**
- (F) With a light touch, swirl the Mother of Pearl in a small circular motion. Turn the turntable as you work. Reload your brush when needed. **Do not over-work the brush stokes.** Let the piece dry twelve hours before firing to proper cone (follow manufactures instruction). Be sure to use paper towels or wear gloves when moving the dry Mother of Pearl piece. Ask your leader to give you more information if needed.
- (G) Clean your brush in clean essence, then alcohol and finally with soap and water. Store this brush, alone, away from your other brushes.

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- (H) Check the stilt marks and remove as needed.
- (I) Complete your E-record.
- (J) Evaluate your project using the Unit 3 guideline for judging on page 8.

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# UNIT 3

## OVERGLAZE

### PROJECT 2

#### Basic Information:

- (1) Project 2 will be a “pick and choose” project. You should have an exciting and fun time.
- (2) You will see what the Halo family can do.
- (3) *Repeating and senior members may select any type of greenware and choose any skill that he/she has not learned in this unit.*
- (4) This project will be considered as one of your required pieces. **Learning projects are usually not entered in competition.**
- (5) Select a small plain piece or a highly detailed piece (i.e. an animal figurine).
- (6) This piece must be a decorative and not a piece that will come in contact with food or beverage.
- (7) Choose Halo Gold or Halo Platinum.
- (8) Select a Gloss glaze color. Keep in mind that dark colors work best with Halo Gold (i.e. black, dark blue, etc.). All colors work well with Halo Platinum.
- (9) Decide on which technique you would like to complete.
- (10) You will use some of the tools and brushes you used in Unit 1 and Unit 2.
- (11) You may need to purchase a Camel hair glaze brush to apply Halo Gold or Halo Platinum.
- (12) **Before your next workshop**, wash the new brush in soap and water, rinse and reshape.
- (13) Remember that metallics contaminate easily. Label your brush and keep it only for the metallic you have selected.

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#### Steps:

- (A) Prepare work area with suitable covering.
- (B) **Remember the safety rules.** (Refer to page 3)
- (C) Clean the greenware with proper tools. Initial and date your piece.
- (D) Re-carve the detail if needed (Refer to Cleaning Greenware Step 4, page 4).
- (E) Before you fire your piece, inspect it for apparent seam lines and imperfections (correct them as needed).
- (F) Fire the piece to the proper bisque firing cone.
- (G) Keep accurate notes as you proceed.

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# UNIT 3

## OVERGLAZE

- (H) Prepare work area with suitable covering.
- (I) Clean kiln dust from the piece.
- (J) Apply the glaze, according to manufacturer's instructions, **using the Nylon glaze brush.**
- (K) Wash brush with soap and water. Rinse and reshape the brush.
- (L) Fire the piece to the proper cone size.

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- (M) Prepare work area with suitable coverage.
- (N) Cover the turntable with foil, for protection. Make a mark on the turntable where you will begin painting your piece.
- (O) Place the piece on the turntable. Clean the piece, the work tile and **Camel Hair glaze brush** with denatured alcohol. Blot the brush with paper towel. Let the piece dry completely.
- (P) Load the brush with the Halo metallic. **Do not load brush past the hair (beginning of the metal ferrule).**
- (Q) Starting at the mark on your turntable, apply Halo on the piece from top to bottom. Load the brush often. Be sure to get a good coverage.
- (R) Continue with the second coat. The first coat will be tacky, as it should be.

### **Application for marble technique:**

- (a) Load brush, on the third coat, and hit just the top of the piece. Put pressure on your brush so the halo metallic will stream down to the bottom of the piece.
- (b) Load your brush for each hit. This will give you a "vein looking" effect. Try to get a good network of veins around the entire piece.
- (c) Halo metallics have a mind of their own and are hard to control. Just relax and have fun with this technique.

### **Application for Halo technique:**

- (a) Let second coat dry for two or three minutes apply the third coat.
- (b) Load the corner of the glaze brush and just touch the piece to make halos. Try to space your halos to balance your design.
- (c) This technique is especially nice on a plain piece or a beige colored giraffe figure.

- (S) After all coats and designs are completed, let dry for twelve hours, fire the piece to proper cone. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- (T) Clean the brush in clean essence. Swish the brush in clean alcohol and then wash it with soap and water. Shape the brush and let dry. Store this brush, alone, away from your other brushes.
- (U) Have the stilt marks removed after the final firing.
- (V) Complete your E-record project and expense supplement sheets.
- (W) Evaluate your project using the Unit 2 guideline for judging on page 8.

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# UNIT 3

## OVERGLAZE

### PROJECT 3

#### Basic Information:

- (1) **Fabulous!!** You have completed projects 1 and 2.
- (2) You are ready to create your project 3 which may be your exhibit piece.
- (3) The skills learned, in this unit:
  - (a) Decal application.
  - (b) Application of Mother of Pearl.
  - (c) Halo metallic application.
- (4) You may use one of these skills by themselves or in combination. If you are having a hard time deciding, ask your parent, leader, or local ceramic studio for advice. .

#### Suggestions:

- (1) Before choosing your piece, and if you have the opportunity, go to several ceramic studios to see what is available.
- (2) You may want to change your piece by alternating the design of the greenware (Greenware adaptation).
- (3) Refer to ceramic publications and websites for technique ideas. Check references on page 70.
- (4) You might want to obtain information from your local library.
- (5) Be sure to stay within your unit medium (Overglaze).

#### Steps:

- (A) Follow the cleaning steps as outlined on page 4.
- (B) Decide on the technique you wish to achieve.
- (C) Complete E-record.
- (D) Evaluate your piece using the Unit 3 guideline for judging on page 8. Ask your leader for help.



# UNIT 3

## OVERGLAZE

### CERAMIC CHECK LIST:

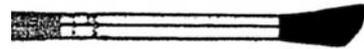
Identify the following tools and brushes:



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What I learned about the care of my ceramic brushes:

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What I learned in this unit:

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**Good for you!!** By completing 3 or more projects, exhibiting E-records and one project you have completed this year's Unit.

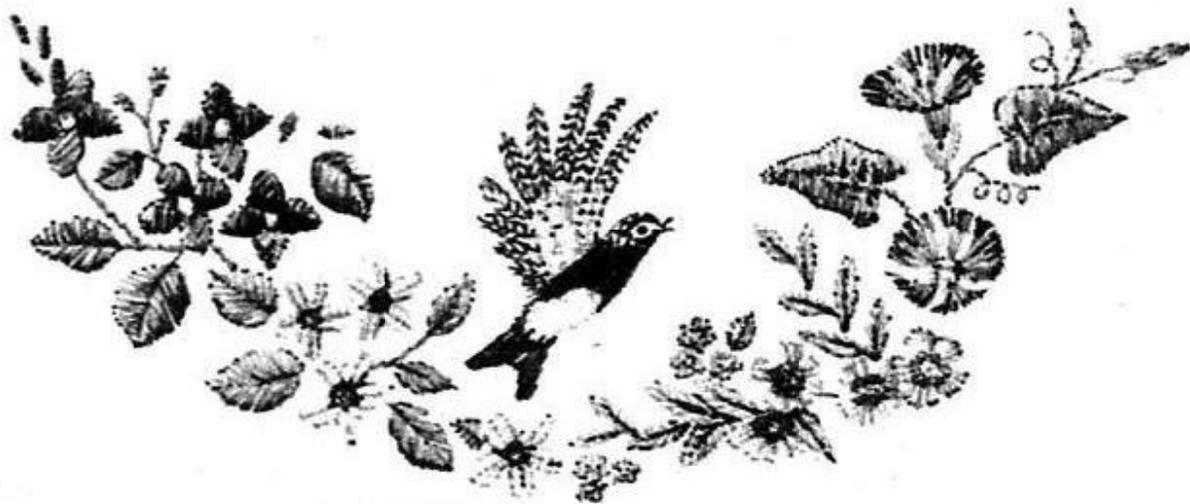
# UNIT 3

## OVERGLAZE

<b>CERAMIC KNOWLEDGE AND GOALS CHECKLIST:</b>	New skills I have learned.	Skills I want to learn or improve.
Altering the greenware pattern for a special effect.		
Making my own design using several decals.		
Combining several overglazes.		
Application of Enamels.		
Application of China Paste.		
Application of China Paint.		
Application of an Overglaze not listed. Name of Overglaze:		

**Put the date when you learned the skills. Place a check mark in the column of skills you would like to learn. Discuss skills you would like to learn with your leader. She/he will be able to give you hints as how to achieve your goal.**

**Check the glossary for more information on each of the skills.**



# **UNIT 3**

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