

SUMMER 2011: TRURO CENTER FOR THE ARTS AT CASTLE HILL

ECO-FRIENDLY PATINAS ON COPPER AND BRASS

(a. k. a. Color on Copper and Brass: Patinas from the Kitchen, Backyard, and Grocery Store)

Workshop: A variety of common eco-friendly substances from the kitchen, backyard and grocery store can be used to create colorful patinas on copper and brass. These substances - including some fruits and vegetables, vinegar, aspirin, and cat urine - offer benign alternatives to the industrial chemicals that are widely used for patinas on metal. Workshop participants will use hand tools (instruction provided) to make original pieces of jewellery or decorative objects in copper and/or brass and then experiment with applying patinas to these objects. (Patinas can also be applied to existing copper and brass objects brought from home or a thrift store.) All levels of experience in metalsmithing are welcome. Bring your imagination and willingness to explore and experiment with patinas!

At the conclusion of the workshop, participants will have a sampler of patinas on copper and brass, some finished pieces with patinas, and a manual with information on techniques and patinas.

Instructor: Sarah Groves is a metalsmith/jeweller who creates objects using copper, brass, silver, gold and natural gemstones. Since 2001 she has been experimenting with eco-friendly ways to color copper and brass using over 80 substances from the kitchen, backyard and grocery store. She is a full-time studio artist and teaches introductory and intermediate jewellery techniques at Vancouver Community College in Vancouver, BC. Some of her patina work can be viewed at <http://blueboxdesign.ca/patinas.html>

Workshop dates: 1 - 4 pm on Monday - Friday, August 15 - 19. To register, go to: <http://castlehill.org/workshop-jewelry.html>



Elizabethan Eco-collar

Salvaged copper and brass, glass beads, eco-friendly patinas