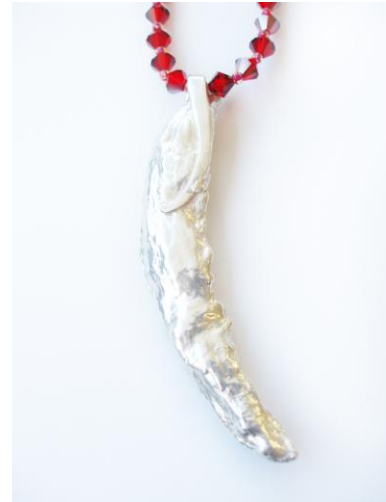


Project of the Week: Chilli Pepper Pendant

5th January 2012

What you need:

Agate/metal burnisher or tumbler polisher
Badger Balm
Clayshaper
Dried Chilli Pepper
Paintbrush and cup of water
PMC3 6.3g silver
PMC3 Paste (1 Paste pot covers approximately 1-2 chilli peppers)
Rubber block
Sandpaper
Snake roller
Stainless steel brush
Straw
Torch and block to fire or Kiln
Work mat or Teflon



All items above (except the chilli) are available from The PMC Studio, www.thepmcstudio.com, tel. 01494 774428. A kiln firing service is available at the PMC Studio. See our website or call us for further details.

Step 1

Place the chilli on a piece of Teflon. Use a damp paintbrush to paint on a layer of paste over the entire chilli except the stem. Leave to dry and repeat, building up approximately 8 layers of paste. When finished leave the chilli to dry again prior to firing.

Fire the chilli in a kiln using the Evenheat Pro-Set kiln on the preset PMC3 Slow Programme (600C/45mins). Once fired, do NOT polish before attaching the bail as this will make it easier to add fresh clay.

Please note it is liable to crack or split. You can either leave the cracks or fill them with lump clay (not paste). Allow to dry and fire again on the PMC3 Fast programme (700C/10mins).

Step 2

Use the snake roller to roll a coil. Press down on the coil to create a flat, thin strip about 1.5mm thick. Run a damp paintbrush along the strip and wrap around a straw. Leave to dry around the straw.

Step 3

Attach the bail to the back of the fired chilli using some paste. Allow to dry. Once dry, gently remove the straw and refine your piece until you are happy with the finished look. The bail can be torch fired onto the leaf. Simply heat until it glows orange and time for a minimum of 2 minutes or kiln fire using the PMC3 Fast programme (700C/10mins).

Step 4

Place the fired piece on a rubber block to support the chilli and use a stainless steel brush to polish. To achieve a high shine finish, continue using a burnisher or place in a tumbler polisher with mixed stainless steel shot and 1/3 teaspoon of tumbler soap.

Aftercare: Polish using silver polish and a soft cloth.

Note:

You must use a DRIED chilli pepper.