

Casting II

Students continuing from beginning casting or have some experience casting will learn vacuum casting and cuttlefish casting plus simple rubber mold making. Students will also become familiar with all related equipment and safety precautions. Instructor will supply all tools and equipment. Student will supply materials and supplies listed below.

Vacuum casting is a technique that utilizes a suction or "vacuum" to pull the metal down into the mold. The wax set-up is much like that of centrifugal casting with a few differences. Those differences are made aware to the student through the exercises assigned.

Cuttlefish casting is a very old technique. Cuttlefish bone was plentiful along the Mediterranean coastline and offered a bounty of material for casting. In modern days you may find it in pet stores or tied to the sides of bird cages. The cuttlefish bone mold is a one-time mold and each result can be as unique as the pattern on the bone. Opening the mold to see the outcome is like opening a gift.

Anything you make you can replicate it by making a rubber mold and then injecting that mold with wax to produce multiple wax models to cast. For instance cast a link then mold it. Make many waxes and you can make a necklace or bracelet. If what you made with the cuttlefish casting was terrific, make a rubber mold and produce it more than once.

1st DAY

A). Intro to shop, tools, safety and release forms. Student's supply list of supplies and metals is discussed.

B). Vacuum casting demonstration. Students will prepare a sheet wax bracelet to cast. Explanation of the casting process and operation of related equipment.

2nd DAY

A). Students cast

B). Solutions and post casting procedures discussed

C). Operation of related tools for cast pieces are demonstrated

3rd DAY

A). Cuttlefish casting demonstration

B). Students prepare cuttlefish for casting

C). Finishing techniques discussed

4th DAY

- A). Soldering finding demonstrations
- B). Finish projects.

This is a three hour a day once a week for four weeks class. The fee for this class is \$350.00.

Supplies students are required to get for class;
3 to 5 ounces of sterling silver
2/0 saw blades, one dozen
Safety glasses
Dust mask