

Clayprint Process

(courtesy of Loren Nibbe)



My “press bed” is a slab of leather hard stoneware clay 1/2in. x 28in. x 50in. with a 1in. x 2in. wooden frame. It is built on a solid core door resting on two sawhorses.



My “inks” are made from pure white china clay (kaolin) as a base. I use my drill press and a large paint mixer to prepare five gallons at a time. The mixture is the consistency of pancake batter.



Cal-tint and Proline house paint tints are added to the liquid slips in a blender to provide the palette of colors .



Some of the colored slip is dried on plaster bats to produce colored clays that are stored in baggies.



Some of the colored clays are rolled into coils and dried to produce chalks.



Painterly, printmaking, and ceramicist techniques are used to apply the slip colors, wet clay, and powdered chalks to the slab to produce the image.



A sheet of Reemay non woven fabric is dampened, placed on the slab, and repeated light pressure is applied with a pizza roller, wooden spoon, and a regular spoon.



When finished, the canvas is lifted from the slab and hung on a clothesline to dry.



The prints are layered in newsprint, rolled, and stored in plastic drain pipes.

(See clay prints online at <http://artbyjerilynne.com>)