

Workshop from Home with Sam Briegel Resources for June 25, 2024

- Sam Briegel lives in a small rancher-style farmhouse with a finished basement on a 4-acre farm property in Baltimore County—about 30 minutes outside of the city. Sam has a 250-sq-ft (76.2-sq-m) home studio in the basement with a tiled floor and spacious window.
- Her kilns are in a separate two-story barn with a garage-like basement approximately 100 ft (30.5 m) from her house. She hopes to renovate the top floor of the barn to house her dream studio.
- Sam uses [Laguna Clay's cone 6 Frost Porcelain](#). She notes that “it is a beautiful, translucent clay body, but difficult to work with. Approach at your own risk. It is unlike any clay body I have ever worked with.”
- She bisque fires to cone 06 and glaze fires to cone 6.
- Sam would first call herself a slab builder since most of her work comes from slabs, and second a wheel thrower. However, the wheel taught her about form.
 - Sam throws almost all the bases on the wheel and then attaches the pre-decorated slabs (cut out from foam templates).
 - She attaches them on the wheel and throws them a little more to stretch them out. This compresses the interior and disrupts the slab's memory of being flat which helps prevent warping.
 - She trims the pieces just like you would a thrown form.
 - She two-hand-pulls handles, which she saw Kip O'Krongly do during a workshop—it was life changing!
- Sam's number one favorite studio tool is the [Mudtools soft yellow number 3 rubber rib](#). It is the workhorse in her studio practice and the tool she has had the longest—lasting over 10 years! Her second favorite tool is a dull X-Acto knife, and third is the extremely popular craft foam.
- Underglaze: Sam only uses [Amaco underglazes](#) for screen printing. Her favorite colors are: Blush, Coral, Bright Red, Lug 1 Black, and Pistachio. She will also mix 2 parts Royal Blue and Lug 1 Black to make a navy blue.
 - Some colors are the right consistency to screenprint right out of the container and others will bleed so she leaves the lid off the jar for a couple of days. Or she will use the [Mayco Silkscreen Medium](#) to thicken them up.

- Sam hardly ever glazes over the underglaze because it looks so beautiful on the raw porcelain, especially the blues and blacks that flux a little.
- Slip: Sam works with two different slip consistencies made from her clay body.
 - She likes to use a slip that is the consistency of drinkable yogurt for the “glue” to transfer the slip inlay on the plaster slab to the slab of porcelain.
 - The slip she stains with Mason Stain is mixed to the consistency of Greek yogurt to paint into the plaster texture.
 - Mason Stains she like to use are: Bermuda, Alumina Pink, Best Black, and Dark Lavender. You can make navy with two-parts Mazerine and one-part Best Black. Unfortunately, she cannot share the quantity since she doesn’t like to measure. But if she had to say, it would be about 2 tablespoons per full pint of slip.
- Meredith Host reference video in our shop “[Form, Pattern, and Underglaze.](#)” The video can also be found [here](#).
- EZScreenPrint [website](#) and the discount code that can be used is “SAMSSLABS”.

Materials for following along during the webinar:

Nitrile Gloves	Box Cutter	Duct Tape
Insulation Foam 2’x2’x1” thick (green or pink)	N95 Mask for mixing plaster	Sticky-backed Craft Foam sized 8.5”x11” Silly Winks Lakeshore Michaels
Drywall Board or Slab Mat (for rolling slabs)	Fabric Swatch of Low-relief Fabric	11”x17” Sheet of Craft Foam (storing slabs and creating templates)
Putty Knives	X-Acto Knife	Rubber Rib
Rolling Pin	3 lbs Pottery Plaster No.1	Plaster Bucket
2-gallon Kitchen Trash Bags	Various Mason Stains	Strong Double Stick Tape
Plaster Rasp	Scissors	Needle Tool
Serrated Metal Rib for Scoring or Scoring Tool	Spray Bottle of Water	Porcelain Slip (mixed to drinkable yogurt consistency)
Immersion Blender	2–3” Hake Brush	1” Square Brushes
Bucket for Water	Throwing Sponge	Throwing Bats
Pottery Wheel	Duct Tape for Sealing	SSR4A Rib by Xiem
Speedball Throwing Bat (Green 7.5 inches)		

Glazing Materials

Clear SG4 Base (Peter Pincus)

Cone 6

Gerstley Borate	4.8%
Wollastonite	26.6
Ferro Frit 3195	22.0
Nepheline Syenite	4.0
EPK Kaolin	26.6
<u>Silica</u>	<u>16.0</u>
	100.0%

Satin Matte

Cone 6

Gerstley Borate	0.52%
Wollastonite	53.30
Ferro Frit 3134	9.53
Minspar or Kona F4	22.83
<u>EPK Kaolin</u>	<u>13.82</u>
	100.00%

Note: Beautiful satin glaze that breaks glossy over edges. However, it is finicky.

Links from Sam Briegel:

Instagram: [@sambriegel](https://www.instagram.com/sambriegel)

Website: www.samanthabriegel.com

*Shop updates are announced on Instagram and found on Sam's website.

<https://ceramicartsnetwork.org>

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[Ceramic Arts Network](#) is an online community serving active potters and ceramic artists worldwide, as well as those who are interested in finding out more about this craft. CeramicArtsNetwork.org provides a wide array of tools for learning about and improving skills in the ceramic arts, and a place for artists to share ideas and perspectives about how their art and life interact to shape each other.

CeramicArtsNetwork.org provides free daily newsletters, access to *Ceramics Monthly* and *Pottery Making Illustrated* magazines, membership to the International Ceramic Artists Network (ICAN), and links you to all the related products and services that these groups offer.

CeramicArtsNetwork.org is owned and managed by The American Ceramic Society, a more than 120-year-old non-profit organization that promotes the professional needs of the international ceramic arts community.

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