

China Mending and Restoration
July 11-18, July 18-25 2010
Lawrence University, Appleton Wisconsin

China Mending and Restoration is an intensive one-week introductory course in English and American methods. Its purpose is to teach the ethical restoration of damaged pottery and porcelain to the original appearance, in keeping with the museum principals of reversibility and respect for the integrity of old ceramics.

Instruction is by lecture, demonstration and practice. The course is taught as a craft so that art training, however useful, is unnecessary. The most important requirements are patience, persistence and good use of hand and hand tool. The goal of the course is to learn many procedures for a variety of problems, rather to finish one restoration. The principals learned in one week can – with practice – lead to competence.

Now in its 33rd year, this course developed by Morla W. Tjossem is the only one of its kind in the U.S. It is taught by Gerlinde Kornmesser, Associate of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works and practicing restorer. It is offered only in summer. Besides museum ethics, what distinguishes it from any other course is the low fee and the use of commonly available and inexpensive materials, all identified. Its careful instruction is not associated with sales of secret substances. It enjoys an impeccable reputation and attracts discriminating collectors from all over the U.S. and Canada.

Topics:

Ethics and scruples in Ceramics Restoration	Modeling and casting missing parts
Deleting good repairs	Synthetic glaze, color and design
Removing stains and old repairs	Crazing, texture, matting, special effects
Joining single and multiple breaks	Airbrush and drill
Filling chips, plain and fancy	Sources for supplies

Lodging and meals are provided on campus, with single rooms unless otherwise requested. Materials furnished include beginner's tools, adhesives, inert powders for composition, molding substances, abrasives, artist's dry pigments and synthetic glaze – both for classroom use and a good supply to take home. Participants bring their own damaged pottery or porcelain (see list over)

Fee: \$1800 (includes tuition, all supplies and tools, printed materials, meals and lodging)

Registration: \$500. Balance of \$1300 for all classes must be received by June 1, 2010. The non-refundable registration fee may be applied to any future class. Early registration is desirable because materials are specifically ordered and prepared for each person. Enrollment is limited.

Accommodation at the cost of room and board is available for spouses or friends not taking the course. Check-in is Sunday afternoon after 2, supper at 6:00pm. Check out is after breakfast the following Sunday.

Please make check payable to "Gerlinde Kornmesser" and send with the registration form to:

1705 Glenview Road, Glenview, IL 60025. Telephone (847) 724-3059



-----**REGISTRATION FORM**-----

China Mending and Restoration - 2010
___ July 11-18, ___ July 18-25

Name: _____ Telephone (____) _____
 Last (please print) First

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Where did you learn about this course? _____

Special Interests (ceramic): _____

If the class you choose is filled, which of the others can you attend? _____

Bring with you: Work Apron, sharp pencil knife, old paring knife, X-Acto knife No. 1 with #10 blades or surgeon's scalpel handle #3 with #10 and #15 blades, small-sharp-nosed pliers, tweezers, small scissors, old toothbrush, magnifying glass, old dental hand tool (any style- ask your dentist; he calls them "instruments") and a stenographer's size spiral notebook.

Bring with you as many of the following as possible (if you can't find them all, not to worry):

1. One article broken in 2 pieces, or 1 piece broken off a larger one.
2. One article broken in more than 2 pieces, fewer than 5 pieces.
3. One article with simple chip, or chunk out and missing.
4. One article with complex or molded chip or chunk out and missing.
5. One article requiring modeling of missing part: foot, hand, fingers, petals, leaves...
6. One article with missing handle - without model to copy.
7. One article with missing handle and a model to copy: a 2-handled dish with only one handle present, or 2 matching cups - one with handle and one without.
8. Old repairs to remove and improve.
9. Other.

Easiest beginning projects:

Figures: Staffordshire, bisque, continental, Oriental
Vases: handles broken or missing, chips
Teapots: broken spouts and handles, missing knobs
Stoneware jugs, crocks, mugs
Pottery
Oriental porcelain
Dolls, bisque or china; damaged hands, feet or shoulders

Note: some glass, especially colored or translucent, can be repaired or restored by the same principles as for china.

Harder projects:

Thin, translucent dinnerware
Parian
Wedgwood jasperware
Lusterware
Transfer designs
Hairline cracks, long cracks
Soft crumbly pottery
Dolls, bisque or china; facial breaks

Except for soft pottery, these are easy enough to bond, only harder to paint than projects on the left.

Scrupulous restoration of antique pottery and porcelain is faithful to the potter's original intent. It does not grind off damaged spouts, handle stubs, rims or bases... does not grind off mistakes in bonding... does not lay necklaces, ties or bracelets on broken necks or wrists... does not paint embellishments over cracks and patches... does not paint over large areas of sound china or paint old parts to match new... does not run molten metals into gaps... does not boil antique china or subject it to household bleach. These discredited, destructive and irreversible practices are often endorsed in books tied to the sale of supplies. Alteration is not Restoration. To restore means to put back - not to add on, not take off. Alteration diminishes historic, aesthetic and monetary value. Restoration increases all three.
