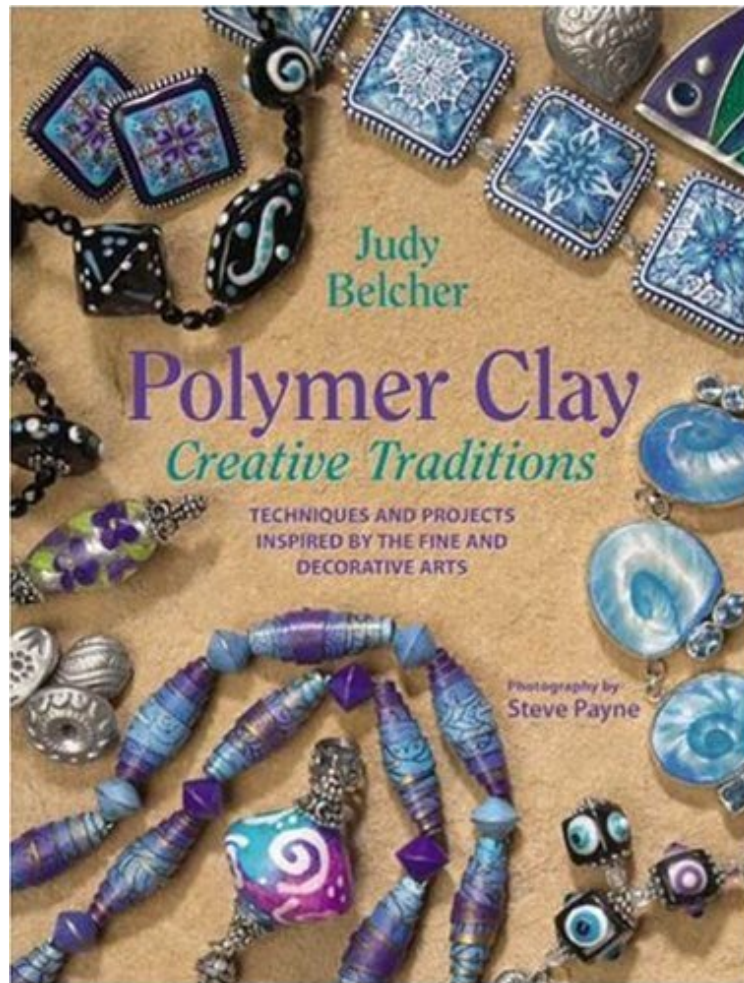


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## Polymer Clay Creative Traditions: Techniques and Projects Inspired by the Fine and Decorative Arts

Judy Belcher

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**Judy Belcher : Polymer Clay Creative Traditions: Techniques and Projects Inspired by the Fine and Decorative Arts** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Polymer Clay Creative Traditions: Techniques and Projects Inspired by the Fine and Decorative Arts:

48 of 49 people found the following review helpful. Exceptional book with a fresh approach By M. Donnelly Polymer clay is gaining in popularity, and with that popularity comes a variety of books that cover much of the same territory. Judy Belcher's book takes a fresh approach. Judy investigates the many styles of other decorative art forms and applies the characteristics of those art forms to clay. The results are stunning, enlightening and invigorating. Batik, millefiori, lampwork, quilting, cloisonne...all these forms--and more--are applied to clay. While this book was not targeted

towards the beginning clayer, it does have a variety of projects at many skill levels, enabling all who read it to successfully complete the project and learn the technique. Judy's skill with clay, her eye for design, her love of the medium and her imaginative spirit all come through in this book. I'm still stunned with her attempt at imitating pointillism--paintings created by using tiny dots of color--using polymer clay. This book will definitely be getting a bit of wear and tear. I've read it twice from cover to cover, and I continue to go through it to learn more. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Vivian Scibilia GREAT POLYMER BOOK. HAS SOME NEW TECHNIQUES. 10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. The book I've been waiting for By Karen Tiede First--as noted with the low-star reviews, this book is not for beginners, and not for everyone. The book presumes a working knowledge of polymer clay techniques and doesn't try to fill that gap. Do not buy this as your first PC book. The book is also aimed at a very high-end audience, people who want to make fine craft. Most of the examples could easily win display space at the top craft shows, with \$2000 booth fees. I recognize some of these slides from ads in Niche and Crafts Report and maybe even American Craft. Not your average street fair stuff. That said, this is NOT your average street fair stuff. If you've been hanging around the edges of PC, knowing that it had possibilities and wondering why it was you never really liked any of the work you saw, buy Belcher. If the Lark book about PC makes you breathe hard and you can't figure out how to make those items, buy this book. Two very revealing quotes: "The precise cuts and angles in this millefiori cane took days to construct." (Sandra McCaw) "Taking up to a month to build a single cane," (Sarah Nelson Shriver). OK. We're talking mastery here. PC holding its own with faceted stones and silver settings. PC that looks like adult jewelry and not just something I'd wear on Saturday morning. There's a lot in here I'm never going to make, but for the techniques I couldn't work out on my own and for the inspiration, it's the best. (But it still doesn't tell how McCaw builds her canes...)

Thousands of crafters have discovered that polymer clay is versatile, easy to use, and just plain fun. Now they can use this exciting medium to create remarkable new work inspired by the decorative arts of the past. Polymer Clay Creative Traditions lets both beginners and experienced artisans draw inspiration from painting and drawing, ethnic carving, quilting, ceramics, sculpture, glass, metalwork, and more. Through 300 stunning photographs and fascinating text, author Judy Belcher reveals how these influences can be expressed in polymer clay. An introduction on the history and handling, plus tips and techniques throughout the book, make Polymer Clay Creative Traditions an invaluable guide to creating works of art that blend a great material of today with the greatest design ideas of yesterday.

From Booklist Addressing novices to the medium of polymer clay as well as more advanced crafters in the field, Belcher prepares an attractive handbook on making clay items; the more than 30 projects suggested here are inspired by traditions in working in glass, metal, fiber, painting and drawing, stone and bone and wood, and ceramics, since, as the author states, "polymer clay is the only medium that can emulate all of those different art forms." Gorgeous color photographs highlighting her work and the work of many other successful crafters guide the reader through a mouthwatering, even surprising, display of clay things to make, from beads that take after ones made of glass, to an enameled pin that would be a lovely accent to a blouse or blazer, to replications of Georgia O'Keeffe-type flowers to decorate a purse. For crafters adding more crafts to their repertoire. Brad Hooper Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved About the Author Judy Belcher is the president and a founding member of the Kanawha Valley, West Virginia, Polymer Clay Guild and a member of the National Polymer Clay Guild. Her work in polymer clay has been featured in many juried exhibitions, and she has made many appearances to demonstrate her techniques in polymer clay, on television and at trade shows, stores, and schools. She lives in St. Albans, WV. Steve Payne is a commercial photographer known for his fine art landscape, nature, and portrait photography. He lives in Charleston, WV.