

Hawaii Craftsmen 2007 'Aha Hana Lima Workshop Sculpting Crypto-Animals with Gerald Heffernon

University of Hawaii / Manoa sculpture studio, March 24-26, 9:00am – 4:00pm

Lab Fee: \$25 payable to Hawaii Craftsmen (epoxy putty, wire, demo materials, odds and ends...)

On-Campus Parking: \$3 entry good for the day and parking is allowed anywhere that isn't reserved or handicap since this is weekend and holiday (Monday is Kuhio Day). Sunday is free. Carpool if you can.

There will be coffee in the ceramics courtyard. Contributions of snacks most welcome! One hour lunch break. You're on your own and can bring lunch (limited selections on or near campus) or make arrangements with your fellow students for runs off-campus.

There will be a potluck dinner open to all members and workshop participants on Sunday evening at 5:30pm at the University of Hawaii ceramics courtyard. Please join in, coordinate amongst yourselves, elect a representative to report on your workshop and if possible, bring some show-and-tell.

After dinner entertainment: *Emerging Japanese Glass Artists*, a slide presentation by Jung Mi Koo (UH BFA 2001). Plus -- student images.

STUDENTS MUST BRING:

1. One yard of realistic fake fur fabric (from any fabric store)
2. Taxidermy eyes, or, realistic plastic doll/ toy animal eyes, or solid color marbles – there will be a limited selection of glass eyes for purchase at the workshop.
3. Hot glue gun and glue sticks
4. Roll of aluminum foil
5. A roll of two inch wide masking tape or duct tape
6. An old newspaper
7. Apron and/or old clothes
8. Pliers & wire cutters
9. Scissors
10. Single-edged razor blade or cutter
11. Tailor's chalk, if you have it
12. Black permanent marker
13. Colored permanent markers for fur highlighting, if desired
14. Fimo, if you have it
15. Any other tools and bits you think might be useful or fun

16. Optional: 3-5 slides or digital images of your own work to share on Sunday night after the Emerging Japanese Glass presentation.

Fabric Sources:

Fabric Mart
1631 Kalakaua Ave, Honolulu, HI 96826
947-4466

Kaimuki Dry Goods
1144 10th Ave, Honolulu, 96816
734-2141

Mapunapuna Ben Franklin Crafts
2810 Pa'a Street
Honolulu, HI 96819
833-3800

Some glass eye sources:

Van Dyke's Taxidermy Supplies
www.vandykestaxidermy.com

Tohickon Glass Eyes
www.tohickonglasseyes.com

Suggested eye sizes --
16 - 18 mm for cats, small dogs, raccoons
20 - 22 mm for medium dogs, bobcats, rabbits

Then you can go smaller or larger, depending on the size of your creature and the effect you want or the number of eyes it'll have....

I will demonstrate how I sculpt crypto-zoological animals--that is, unknown, unconfirmed, or imaginary animals--using the assigned media: fake fur, epoxy putty, and various core or "body" materials. Participants will then create small-scale sculptures using the same technique. If students have ideas in advance, they are welcome to bring sketches to class and get advice on producing that idea in the listed materials. I expect that other media and methods will be discussed as a result of the interactions in the workshop.

Although I use unconventional materials and techniques for which there is probably no college course equivalent, standard hand-sculpting is still the main skill required. And while the student should be prepared to use unfamiliar techniques, these techniques are no harder than any other sculpting method. The process is flexible, forgiving, and full of experimental possibilities. The basic idea is to glue fake fur or other man-made but natural-looking fabrics to a sculpted animal form and fashion the eyes, claws, nose, etc. from various other raw or ready-made materials. The twists, quirks, and unique look of each result are up to the inspiration of student.

Gerald Heffernon