

Dragonfly Pond – Mark Hufford



Spray mold with ZYP with two – three coats evenly and allow drying.

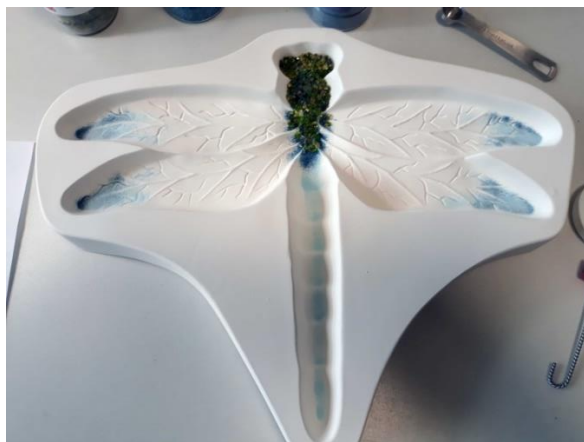


Fig 1



Fig 2

Fill the head and eye cavity, down to the thorax area where the wings attach to the body with the colors you have chosen. My color choices were medium Deep Aqua transparent for the eyes, and medium

Camouflage blend. Sift blue powdered frits in the wing tips to tint the ends and the deeper cavities of the body. I used a combination of Aventurine Blue and Transparent Blue Topaz. See Fig 1

Begin adding medium clear frit to the body cavity and wings covering the sifted powders. I also added dichroic flakes to the body area. See Fig 2



Fig 3 (I pre-fired this stage)



Fig 4 (pre-fired the individual elements)

Next begin filling the entire mold evenly with coarse clear frit not quite half the depth of the mold.

This is then fired 400/1000/10, 300/1400/30, AFAP/950/30, 300/600/OFF.

Fire this portion just hot enough for the frit to melt and create an even surface on which to lay your fired painting pieces face down on. This thin clear layer then provides more depth in the wings and light to travel to the painted elements. This leveling off of the frit in the firing will also reduce the likelihood of your painting moving in the final full fuse. The frit will leave a few gaps in the firing but this will be filled in with clear frit on the final fuse. See Fig 3

Next lay your fired wing and body segments face down into the mold on top of the pre-fired frit area. You will be reversing the wings – what you painted as Right Wings Mold Facing will be turned face down on the left side of the casting mold. The Left Wings Mold Facing will be placed face down on the right side of the casting mold. The body may be placed face up or face down as it is a simple watercolor wash of enamels just providing color to the body.

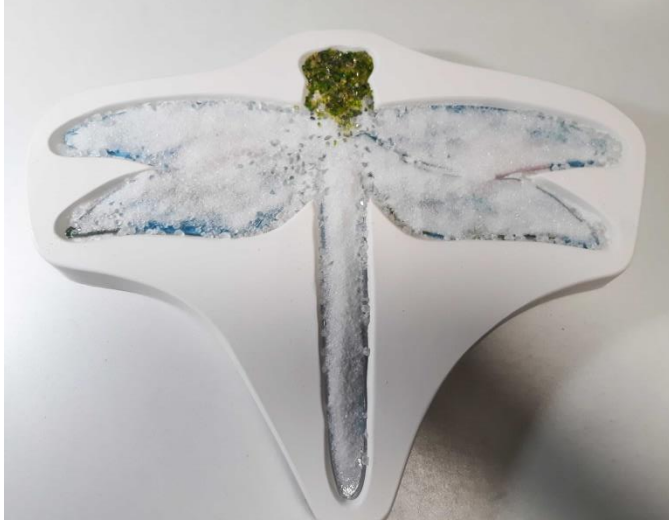


Fig 5

Next add more medium and fine clear frit to the back of the painted pieces and continue filling in more of the head frit colors if needed. The initial application of frit in the head is not enough volume to fill the cavity but we did not want it to spread either. See Fig 5

Fire this to a full fuse. My schedule used is

300/1000/15, 200/1275/30, 300/1440/30, AFAP/950/70, 300/600/OFF.