Bamboo is a classic motif with both Asian and tropical influences. Our Bamboo design capitalizes on this motif’s familiarity by enabling the artist to quickly and easily create beautiful pieces with only two firings.

**Priming the Mold**
Always start by priming Colour de Verre molds. There are two products that can be used: Hotline Primo Primer™ and ZYP BN Lubricoat Aerosol (formerly MR-97).

With either product, clean the mold with a stiff nylon brush and/or toothbrush to remove any old kiln wash or boron nitride. (This step can be skipped if the mold is brand new.)

If you are using Hotline Primo Primer, mix the product according to directions. Apply the Primo Primer™ with a soft artist’s brush (not a hake brush) and use a hair dryer to completely dry the coat. Give the mold four to five thin, even coats drying each coat with a hair dryer before applying the next. Make sure to keep the Primo well stirred as it settles quickly. The mold should be totally dry before filling. There is no reason to pre-fire the mold.

To use ZYP, hold the can 10 to 12 inches from the mold. Apply a light coat using a four to five-second burst of spray in a sweeping pattern across the mold’s cavities. Do not saturate the surface. Set the mold aside for five minutes so it can dry. If the mold has never been used with ZYP before, apply a second coat using another four to five-second burst of spray. Let the mold dry for ten to fifteen minutes. The mold is ready to fill. ZYP will result in fewer casting spurs and crisper detail.

See our website’s Learn section for more instructions about priming Colour de Verre molds with ZYP.

**Filling the Bamboo Design**
The suggested fill weight for the Bamboo is 750 grams. To illustrate the mold’s use, we will use a combination of Black powder, Pale Amber and Clear frits. However, artists should not hesitate to experiment with different color combinations.

To accentuate the mold’s details, 2 to 3 grams of Black powder frit will be sifted into the mold. Before opening the jar, put on a dust mask. It is always important to wear a mask when working with glass frits or other fine particles as to avoid breathing in any glass dust or particles.

Place a small sifter on a piece of paper and load the sifter with some of the powder. Hold the sifter over the mold and tap the sifter to distribute the powder at the joints to accent the detail. The powder will naturally fall into the

**Availability**
Colour de Verre molds are available at fine glass retailers and many online merchants including our online store, www.colourdeverre.com.

**Tools**
- Colour de Verre Bamboo mold
- Digital scale
- Sifter
- Slumping mold

**Supplies**
- Hotline Primo Primer™ or ZYP BN Lubricoat Aerosol (formerly MR-97)
- Assorted powder and frits
mold’s deepest areas. This isn’t a problem.

As mentioned earlier, the mold will be filled with Pale Amber and Clear frit. Weight out 500 grams on fine Pale Amber and 250 grams of fine Clear. Put these into a large lidded container and shake to thoroughly mix. Distribute the mixture evenly into the mold.

Because of the Bamboo design’s broad surface area, it is important to elevate the mold above the kiln shelf when firing the mold. To elevate the mold, use three 1” (2.5cm) kiln post or taller kiln post turned on their sides.

Fire the mold according to the Fine Frit Casting Schedule.

Place the bamboo panel on the mold with texture side up and fire according to the Slumping Schedule.

**Variations**

Of course, you can use any combination of frit colors you wish. However, one of our favorite combinations was of greens that mimicked the colors of young bamboo.

Black powder is sifted over the joints and partially down the lengths of the bamboo. Two fine mesh frits are mixed. Put 150 grams of fine Moss Green frit into a lidded container. Next add 600 grams of fine Clear frit. Cover the container and shake to create a uniform mixture. Distribute this mixture evenly into mold. Fire according to the Fine Frit Casting Schedule.

In the examples above, we used fine mesh frit. The mold can also be used with medium and coarse frit. In those cases, use the Medium/Coarse Frit Casting Schedule.

**Slumping the Bamboo Panel**

The cast bamboo panel can be slumped in your favorite slumping mold. One of our favorite slumping molds for this design is a Bullseye Glass’ Rectangular Slumping Mold, #008924. This mold is also marketed under the brand Creative Ceramics.

Prime the surface of the your slumping mold according to the manufacturer’s recommendations.

**Fine Frit Casting Schedule***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Segment</th>
<th>Ramp</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Hold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>300°F/165°C</td>
<td>1330°F/720°C</td>
<td>45-60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>AFAP</td>
<td>960°F/515°C</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>100°F/60°C</td>
<td>600°F/315°C</td>
<td>Off. No venting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Medium/Coarse Frit Casting Schedule***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Segment</th>
<th>Ramp</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Hold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>300°F/165°C</td>
<td>1400-1420°F/760-770°C</td>
<td>10-20 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>AFAP</td>
<td>960°F/515°C</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>100°F/60°C</td>
<td>600°F/315°C</td>
<td>Off. No venting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Slumping Schedule***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Segment</th>
<th>Ramp</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Hold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>300°F/165°C</td>
<td>1200/650°C</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>AFAP</td>
<td>960°F/515°C</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>100°F/60°C</td>
<td>600°F/315°C</td>
<td>Off. No venting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Schedule for COE 96. For COE 90, increase casting temperature by 15°F/8°C. AFAP means “As Fast As Possible”, no venting.