

## *Crown Jewels - Wearable Reliquaries:*

*Laurie Mika – Sunday March 21<sup>st</sup> 2010*

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The earliest reliquaries were simple box-like designs meant to hold relics that were often the physical remains of saints. In the broad sense, a relic is a venerated object and in this workshop we will be making ancient looking jewelry pieces based on that traditional box-like shape. We will create small spaces in these “wearable reliquaries” to hold an item of personal significance like a Milagro, strands of hair, seeds, a photo, charm or jewelry parts. I recently created a small reliquary that holds my dog’s tooth!!

We will cover a variety of techniques using polymer clay including using rubber stamps, acrylic paint, transfers, mica powders, mica, embossing powders, gold leaf and even shrink plastic. I will also demonstrate techniques for embedding all types of materials into the clay and for creating windows in clay. We will also explore ways to create faux metal-like surfaces.

### *Student Supply List*

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5 small (2 ounce) packages of darker colored polymer clay

1 small (2 oz) package of white clay

Polymer Rolling pin

Small personal doo-dads like charms, Milagros, photos, beads, wings, crowns, page pebbles, metal findings, small frames, and collage elements to place in the tiny window and for embedding into the clay. See pictures for ideas.

Black Staz-On ink

jewelry pliers

*Note: should you wish to order and collect at the retreat, polymer clay, rolling pins are available from Bevelea*