

Sergei Isupov

Eyes, Lips, Ears: techniques for modeling and painting

Tools and Materials List

NOTE: We have provided suggested links for some of the less familiar tools. These tools are most likely available through other sources, so if you have a favorite supplier check there first!

BUILDING MATERIALS

Clay: Helios porcelain from Highwater Clays, Cone 7-11

BUILDING TOOLS





containers for slip and soft clay

turntable—optional but useful. *You can create your own easily and inexpensively by purchasing “lazy susan hardware” at a hardware store or online.*

thin plastic bag for covering work in progress

thick plastic sheet for placing underneath the slabs

rolling pin

cutoff wire

bevel tool <https://www.theceramicshop.com/product/5214/slab-bevel-dirty-girl/>

flexible rib <https://www.theceramicshop.com/store/search.asp>

ball end tools (Doll Eye Sizers- <https://kemperdolls.com/par2099.html>)

Spout Maker Tool <https://www.dickblick.com/products/spout-makers/>

paddle

wooden boards for gauging thickness if you are rolling without a slab roller 1/8” or 4 mm plywood is good)

NOTE: If you are using a slab roller, Sergei suggests using a slab mat to avoid getting the texture of the usual slab roller canvas. <https://slabmat.com>

Not pictured: Paintbrush for applying slip—Sergei uses a hog hair bristle filbert brush approx.. ½” or 1 cm wide (about a #6), but any brush that works to apply slip is OK.

Plaster bat:

suggested size: 60 x 40 x 3.5cm (approximately 24 x 16 x 1.5 inches_
OR Drywall slab also can be used (tape the edges)



drywall slab with taped edges

FINISHING TOOLS



These tools are for cleaning up after the form has dried, before the bisque firing.

Pictured from left to right:

Scrubbing sponge (Scotch Brite General Purpose Hand Pad)

soft smooth sponge (white round)

metal rib

drywall sandpaper various grits,

The wooden tool was something that Sergei made for himself, but the shape is very similar to this tool designed and sold by Phillippe Fauraut:

<https://philippefauraut.com/collections/tools-supplies/products/7-eye-tool>

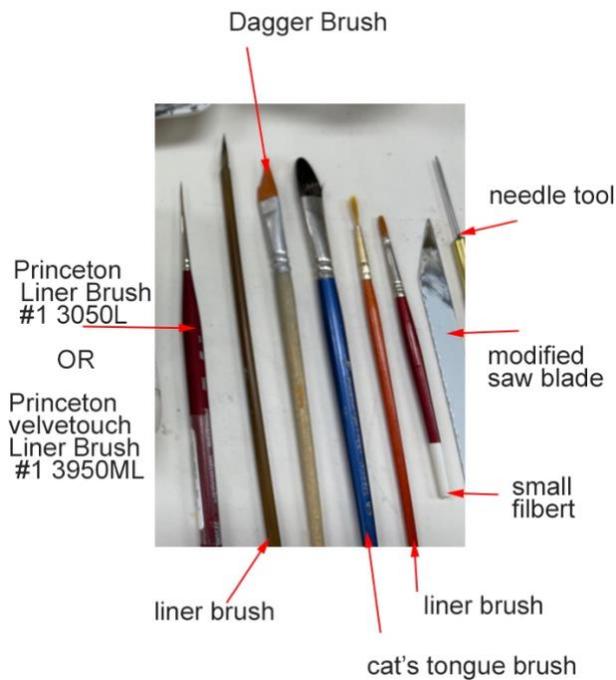
Sergei also used a Surform shaver for cleaning. Available at hardware stores.



DECORATING TOOLS

Sergei uses an H or HB pencil for drawing a preliminary design. The pencil lines burn out in the firing.





Blue Squeeze Bottles: Xiem Tools brand (used to drip water)

Knife—the one pictured is handmade from saw blade. Any sharp edge can be used for scratching.

Needle tool

Brushes: Sergei noted these three in particular. The photo also shows other brushes he uses (the names have worn off.)

Princeton “Art & Brush Co” Brand (More expensive) – Liner Brush #1 3050L

Princeton “velvet touch” Brand – Liner Brush #1 3950ML

Princeton “Select” Brand- Grainer Brushes- $\frac{1}{2}$ ” / $\frac{3}{4}$ ” $\frac{1}{4}$ ” sizes

He also mentioned he uses a fan brush for shading larger areas (particularly on his sculptures)



PAINTING MATERIALS

Underglazes: Any underglazes will work. These are the brands that Sergei uses.

Amaco Brand, Velvet Underglazes V Series (available different sizes)

Spectrum Underglaze (available various sizes and colors)



Amaco Brand: Gum Solution (available in different sizes)

Wax Resist: Highwater Clay Forbes Wax Resist (available in different sizes)