Colnasize

Sepp Leaf Products, Inc.

COLNASIZE is an easily prepared size designed for the adhesion of genuine gold and silver leaf to **Kölner Burnishing Clay** and **Kölner Insta-Clay**.

Preparation

Dissolve 1 teaspoon Colnasize in 2 cups lukewarm tap or distilled water. Some application techniques and climate conditions (such as low humidity) may require a stronger concentration. If initial tests do not produce the desired results, the concentration may be increased to 2 teaspoons per 2 cups warm water. Test concentrations until the desired result is obtained.

Prepare size in a clean, glass container, with a tight-fitting lid. Decant the amount you plan to use immediately. Don't pour contaminated, used solution back into the original, pure solution. Uncontaminated, diluted Colnasize may be refrigerated for several days. Discard when size has a bad odor.

Application

For best results, spray or brush (with a soft, natural hair mop brush) to apply an initial coat. Excessive surface tension may be reduced with the addition of up to 10% denatured alcohol, and a couple of drops of glycerin (available at pharmacies). When first coat is dry, apply a second coat by brush to flood the surface maintaining **complete wetness** until the leaf is floated onto the surface. Apply leaf rapidly while surface is wet. A small brush will help apply size to faults or "holidays" in the gilding. Use small pieces of leaf to gild and patch.

Burnishing

Burnishing is a magical, yet sensitive technique that requires careful observation and practice. This method involves gentle pressure which compresses the gold and the clay layers. You are aiming for a mirror-like reflection. If you try to burnish too soon, the leaf will pull from the clay, and will have a dull appearance. Depending on temperature and humidity, you may wait as little as an hour and a half before beginning to burnish. Burnishing with the Kölner system generally requires gentler pressure than traditional water gilding.

Store COLNASIZE CONCENTRATE and MIXED SOLUTION in refrigerator.