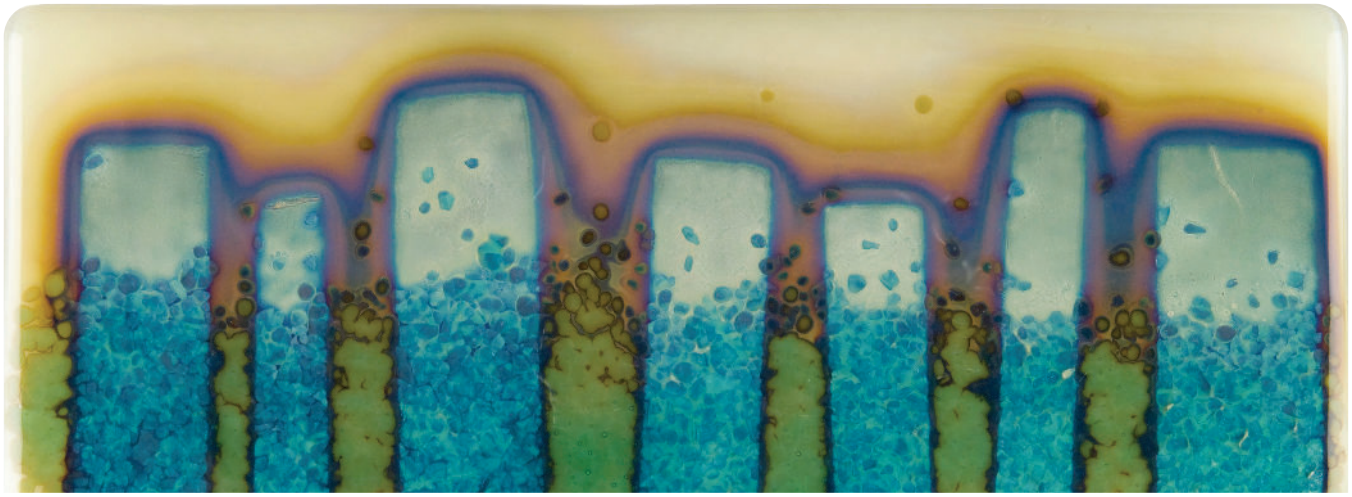
QUICK TIP

A Riot of Effects



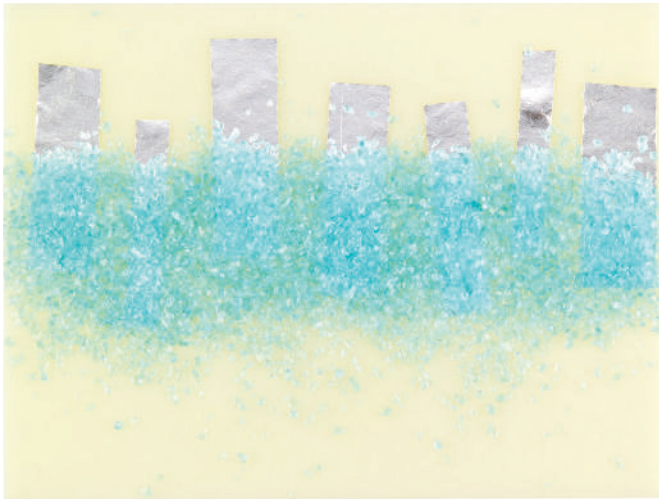
SIMPLE LAYUP + REACTIONS = A RIOT OF EFFECTS

What's Going On In This Glass?

Our piece may look complex, but the colorful effects resulted from just allowing and preventing two types of reactions: **sulfur + copper and sulfur + silver**.

The Layup Was Simple

A base of Tekta Clear sheet (001100-0380) topped with French Vanilla sheet (000137-0030); strips of Silver Foil (007217) placed on the French Vanilla sheet; and Light Aquamarine Blue medium frit (001408-0002) layered over the bottom ²/₃ of the silver strips, spilling onto the French Vanilla sheet. We fired to a full fuse.

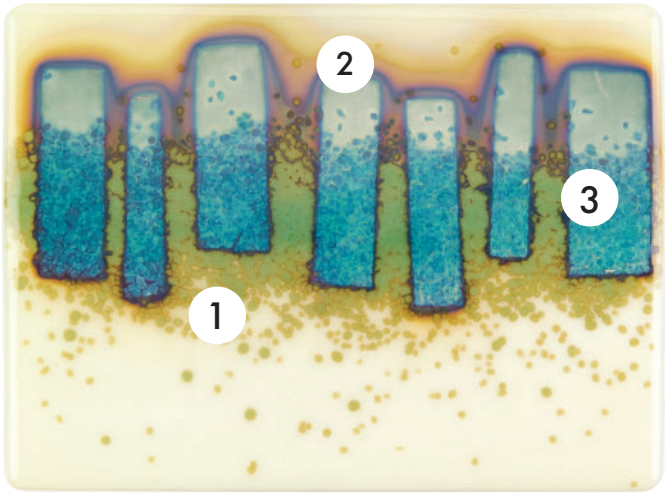


Firing

We've had success firing this layup with an initial heat range of 200–400°F in the first segment of a full fuse. If using larger pieces of silver, slow this rate to 100 degrees per hour to prevent thermal shock.

What Happened

1. Copper-bearing Aquamarine frit reacted with sulfur-bearing French Vanilla sheet.
2. Silver foil reacted with sulfur-bearing French Vanilla sheet. Uncapped and unrestrained, the reaction spread out (fumed) toward the edge of the piece.
3. Copper-bearing Aquamarine frit did not react with silver foil. Instead, it capped the foil, confining the reaction between silver and French Vanilla to the border.



Because uncapped metal foil reactions can spread out and travel, they may contaminate the kiln shelf and affect future firings, even if the shelf is properly scraped and reprimed. Shelf contamination may or may not be visible and can even occur through ThinFire or fiber paper. Contamination is not permanent, but several firings may be needed to adequately burn it out. Consider designating a shelf specifically for firing metal foils.