



### *Aralia Leaf*

*The large leaf cast in Colour de Verre's Aralia Leaf mold can be left flat; slumped individually into a small plate or bowl; or grouped with multiple Aralia Leaf castings to form large, dramatic decorative platters and bowls.*



The design for the Aralia Leaf looks tropical, but the plant actual thrives in the American Pacific Northwest. The mold started as pristine leaf selected from one of these plants. A plaster duplicate was made so the delicate details could be refined. Through a back-and-forth of positive and negative models, the Colour de Verre mold emerged.

#### **Priming the Mold**

Always start by priming your molds. There are two products you can use: Hotline Primo Primer™ and ZYP BN Lubriccoat (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 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.

The first time ZYP is used on a mold, it is necessary to apply two coats of the product. Hold the can 10 to 12 inches from the mold. Apply the first, light coat using a four to five-second burst of spray in a sweeping pattern across all the mold's cavities. Do not saturate the surface. Set the mold aside for five minutes so it can dry. Once dry, 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 Aralia Leaf**

The suggested fill weight for the Aralia Leaf mold is 350 to 400 grams.

To accentuate the mold's details . one to two grams of Black powder

is sifted into the mold. Before opening the bottle, put on a dusk mask as it always best to wear a dust mask when working with glass powders or other fine particles.

Place a small sifter on a piece of paper and load the sifter with some of the mixture. Hold the sifter over the mold and tap the sifter to distribute a fine layer over the mold's surface. Use a small paintbrush to brush away any errant powder from the mold's top edge.

In a large, lidded container, combine a total of 400 grams of fine frit. You can combine clear with greens, yellows, or whatever color you like.

Use a small spoon to layer the frit mixture into the mold. Apply the first three-quarters of the frit mixture evenly into the mold without disturbing the powder. Use the last one-quarter of the frit to increase the frit depth around the leaf's center.

Fire the mold according to the Casting Schedule. The firing schedule's low target temperature and long hold will prevent the frit



from becoming too liquid and balling up due to surface tension.

### Slumping Individual Leaves

Individual leaves can be slumped into beautiful pieces by placing cast leaves in a slumping mold and



using the Individual Leaf Slumping Schedule.

### Casting Schedule\*

Segment	Ramp	Temperature	Hold
1	300°F/165°C	1315-1335°F/713-723°C	45-60 minutes
2	AFAP	900°F/482°C	60 minutes
3	100°F/60°C	700°F/370°C	Off. No venting

\* Schedule for Bullseye Glass. AFAP means “As Fast As Possible”, no venting.

### Individual Leaf Slumping Schedule\*

Segment	Ramp	Temperature	Hold
1	300°F/165°C	1215-1225°F/658-663°C	10 minutes
2	AFAP	900°F/482°C	60 minutes
3	100°F/60°C	700°F/370°C	Off. No venting

\* Schedule for Bullseye Glass. AFAP means “As Fast As Possible”, no venting.