



### **Leather: Dyeing and Decorative Surface Techniques**

Over the past 12 years I have been working with a variety of dyes - aniline, spirit and natural - on undyed vegetable tanned leathers. Much of my work has concentrated on adding dimension to the leather surface using textures and finishes. These days, many of my design bindings incorporate dyed leather with textured surface treatments. More recently, I have branched into making 'leather paintings' as well as collaborating on projects with sculpture artists and for fashion items. My presentation will focus on various techniques using dyes, inks and paint as well as exploring a variety of surface finishes, ranging from highly polished to matte and how to utilise texture.

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Coleen Curry is an internationally recognized contemporary design binder and book artist. Her aim is to craft technically evocative books that evoke a visual, sensual and tactile experience. Coleen began her studies in 2004 with Tini Muira at the American Academy of Bookbinding (AAB) and in 2009 she received a Diploma in Fine Binding from AAB after studying with Monique Lallier for 5 years. Coleen teaches privately and leads workshops in contemporary book structures and design techniques, as well as leather dyeing and surface treatments. Coleen's work has been successfully juried to exhibit internationally in France, Belgium, England, Australia, Argentina and North America. Notable awards include winning the Ninth Helen Warren DeGoyler Award for American Bookbinding in 2022; First Prize Case Binding, The F.J. Ratchford Trophy, Society of Bookbinders International Competition 2015; J Hewit & Sons Award for Excellence in Design, Society of Bookbinders International Competition 2019 and three different Highly Commendable Awards in both the 2017 and 2020 Open/Set International Competitions.

Additionally, Coleen's work is held in both private and public collections, such as the Bancroft Library, Bainbridge Museum of Art and the Boston Athenaeum. Currently, Coleen serves on the Board for the San Francisco Centre for the Book and is past president of the Hand Bookbinders of California. Coleen lives on the California coast, swimming and rock climbing in her free time.