

# BOLLINGER

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## ATELIER

### PATINA MAINTENANCE

EACH BRONZE SCULPTURE IS CAST IN EVERDUR SILICON BRONZE, WHICH IS 95% COPPER. THIS COPPER CONTENT ALLOWS FOR THE CONTROLLED OXIDATION OF THE BRONZE THROUGH THE USE OF VARIOUS ACIDS. THIS PROCESS IS KNOWN AS PATINATION.

THE PATINA IS SEALED WITH A LAYER OF HIGH QUALITY HARD WAX, SUCH AS STAPLES CRYSTAL CLEAR PASTE WAX. TO INSURE THE PATINA REMAINS AS THE ARTIST INTENDED, IT IS NECESSARY TO DEVELOP A STRATEGY FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE SCULPTURE. THIS INVOLVES THE PERIODIC REAPPLICATION OF THE WAX COATING.

FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

- 1.) CLEAN ALL DIRT OFF WITH WARM, SOAPY WATER AND A **SOFT** CLOTH. DO NOT USE ANY ABRASIVE CLEANERS NOR SCRUB PADS.
- 2.) RINSE WITH WATER AND ALLOW TO DRY.
- 3.) IN MID-AFTERNOON, OR WHEN THE SCULPTURE IS HOT, *BUT NOT BLAZING HOT*, APPLY AN EVEN COAT OF WAX WITH A LARGE NATURAL BRISTLE BRUSH.
- 4.) LATER IN THE EVENING, OR WHEN THE SCULPTURE IS COOL, RUB THE WAX WITH A SOFT, NATURAL FIBER CLOTH TO BRING TO THE DESIRED SHINE.

IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO MONITOR THE SCULPTURE IN YOUR PARTICULAR ENVIRONMENT FOR THE NECESSARY FREQUENCY OF CLEANING/WAXING.

BOLLINGER ATELIER DOES NOT RECOMMEND USING SOLELY AN INCRALAQ, OR OTHER CLEAR COATING. TIME & ELEMENTS HAVE SHOWN THAT CLEAR COATING, ALTHOUGH PRESERVING THE PATINA FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS, DETERIORATES IN AN UNEVEN MANNER. WHEN THIS OCCURS, THE BRONZE CANNOT BE SIMPLY CLEANED & RESPRAYED. IT MUST BE SANDBLASTED, RESTORED AND REPATINAED. THIS IS A COSTLY AND CUMBERSOME PROCESS.

**DISCLAIMER:**

Bollinger Atelier does not take responsibility for the misapplication of these guidelines by others. These are general guidelines only, specific recommendations for a particular restoration would need to be made via an evaluation of photos or the actual sculpture by Bollinger Atelier.