

THE STORY OF GLASS CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

Did you know that glass Christmas ornaments originated in Germany?

It was tradition to decorate the German Christmas tree with real fruit and nuts. In 1847, Hans Greiner, one of Lauscha, Germany's prominent glassmakers, started making glass ornaments shaped like fruit and nuts.

He created a design in clay, and using that, made a mold. A glass tube was heated and mouth-blown into the mold, thereby taking on the shape. Once cool, the inside was coated in a silver material to create the shine. Artisans then hand painted each piece. Glue and glitter were added for extra bling.

In 1880, glass Christmas ornaments made their way to the United States when a traveling German salesman introduced them to Frank Woolworth, a store owner in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

At Ursel's Web we have a large selection of ornaments that were created using these old-world, traditional techniques, from Santas and snowmen to gingerbread houses, cats, presents and old-fashioned reflectors. Many hours of work are put into each piece, and it shows in their intricacy, sparkle and beauty.



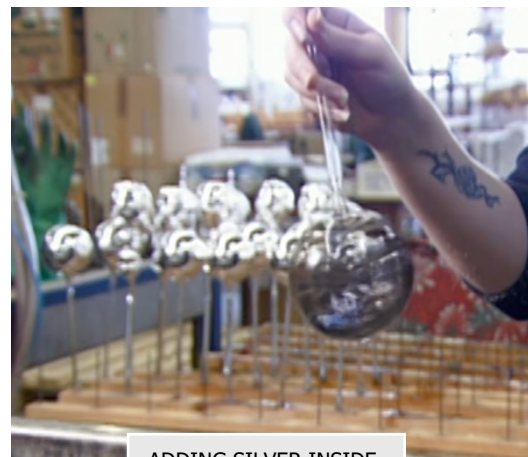
CREATING THE MOLD



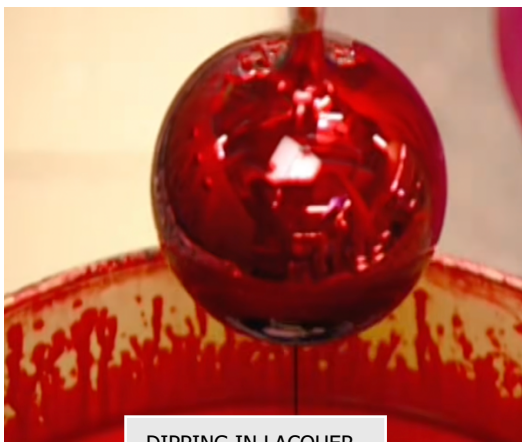
HEATING THE GLASS



GLASS TAKES THE SHAPE OF THE MOLD



ADDING SILVER INSIDE



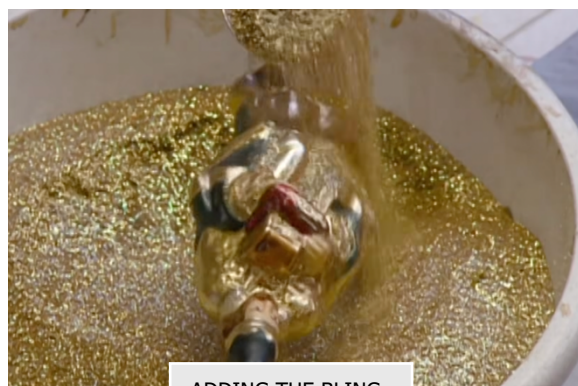
DIPPING IN LACQUER



AIR BRUSHING



HAND PAINTING



ADDING THE BLING



ATTACHING THE CAP



AN EXAMPLE FROM JINGLE NOG

Some of the ornaments we have this year that were created using the above traditional techniques:

