

DaVinci's Angel of the Rocks Ornaments

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I have always loved this detail of the angel from one of Da Vinci's "Madonna of the Rocks" paintings -- her pensive, serene expression is just so appealing.



I decided to use this image to make an ornament for my Christmas tree, and once I got started I couldn't resist making a second using a different technique.



The ornament at left is about 3 1/4" in diameter. It's made from two metal tin can lids, to which I decoupage prints of the angel detail. The lids were then glued back-to-back, so that the ornament shows the image on both sides.

I love the rich golden brown tones in this print, and I accented it with copper glitter around the edges of the image, being careful to avoid the angel's face. Then I finished it off with a light coat of glossy Mod Podge.

I glued metallic braid into the groove around the perimeter of the ornament, and added a beaded component to the top.

Despite its humble beginnings, the finished ornament is as nice as any comparable commercial version.

The second ornament is a geodesic ball made with 1 1/4" circles. It's about 2 3/4" tall, not including the beads.

The kaleidoscopic effect is what makes this geodesic ornament so striking. The trick to a polished finish is careful folding and gluing, making sure that the image is oriented upward on every piece and fitting the folded circles together precisely so that the edges line up exactly. Once the ball was assembled, I covered the edges of the ornament with copper glitter glue, then added just a light touch of gold glitter to the inside of each flange, leaving her face untouched.



To finish, I gave the whole thing a light coating of Mod Podge, then added the beaded component to the top.

These two ornaments, though made using the same image, have a very different impact. I know they will both look beautiful on the tree.