



Knitty Couture

Newsletter

Greetings and Happy Holidays! It's been a fantastic start for us. We simply love visiting with other knitters and crocheters and learning about their projects. We're also excited to present our first newsletter in which we'll talk about the products in the shops, knitting events, and Knitty Couture projects and activities.

Best wishes to you and your family for the holidays!

Items in the Shop

Yarns & Fibers

We aim to stock our shelves with great yarns, both the much loved as well as the unique, hard to find. Some of the most popular lines in the shop have been **Interlacements Yarns** (all the lines we carry, in fact! - Lotus, Toasty Toes, and Tiny Toes), **Lorna's Laces** Superwash Worsted, **Dream in Color** Classy Superwash Worsted, **Twinkle** Chunky, and **Fleece Artist** Somoko.

Our **Blue Sky Alpaca** order came in and has already made its way into knitters' hands. We have the sportweight, mélangé, and the dyed organic cotton in many, many gorgeous colors. You might also find that Blue Sky's cotton is the softest, loveliest cotton you'll ever touch.

Roving fibers

It's so wonderful to find that many of you are as interested in spinning as we are. More fibers are coming including hand-dyed variegated merino as well as top wool from Missouri animal farmers. Be sure to check out our spinning group on Wednesday, 4:30-7:30pm. Please note that the meeting time for this group will change beginning in January - TBD. Check out the website for updates.

Books

We're always expanding our book collection. On our shelves are all of Elizabeth Zimmermann's books as well as the treasury collection by Barbara Walker - a true must have for all knitters.

Are you a sock knitter? We just received Cat Bordhi's new sock book, *New Pathways for Sock Knitting*. If you're not familiar with Cat Bordhi and her work, do come by and check out her book. Her sock designs are creative and very interesting.

Did you know that *Meg Swansen's Knitting* is going out of print? Knitty Couture made sure to have several copies on the shelf. If you're an avid knitbook collector or are a Meg Swansen fan, now is the time to grab the

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Groups

Join us on the following days as others gather to knit, spin and socialize.

Sunday: Open Knit-in,
1:00-6:00pm

Wednesday: Spinning
Group, 4:30-7:30pm

Thursday: Holiday
Knitting, 5:00-8:00pm

Shop Hours

Mon	Closed
Tues	11:00 - 6:00pm
Wed	11:00 - 6:00pm
Thurs	11:00 - 8:00pm
Fri	11:00 - 6:00pm
Sat	11:00 - 6:00pm
Sun	1:00 - 6:00pm

book before you find it on Amazon for \$630.00 (the price of an Alice Starmore book now out of print). Many more books are yet to come. We'll keep you updated!

Current Events

Knit Along

Join us as we begin our first Knit Along in January. In the first week of the new year, we will begin casting on for Elizabeth Zimmermann's Pi Shawl. This simple, classic shawl is knitted in the round, starting off on dpns (double-pointed needles) and incorporating simple diamond designs throughout. Elizabeth's design can be found in her wonderful book, *Knitter's Almanac*. More details to come about dates and times.

Classes

There is only one class left this season for Fall/Winter 2007. Check out the website in the coming week for the Winter/Spring 2008 class listing. There will be several topic-specific classes to encourage you to try your hands on other projects like entrelac, color work, cables, lace, and more.

Knit 102 • Advanced Beginner's Level

- Tuesday, Dec. 11th, 6pm-8pm

Private individual and group lessons are also available. Please inquire for more information.

What we're doing

Meet our staff

Ellen Dorfman

I started crocheting when I was six years old, and my grandmother wanted to keep me quiet. For eight years I crocheted little triangles, because my grandmother was too busy to show me how to avoid decreasing. The poncho craze in the seventies changed all of that! I've been knitting for six years, having learned to do so several weeks after Sam (my son) learned, out of jealousy. I knit socks, lace, and a yearly sweater. I am a sock maniac, actually, and will teach anyone to knit socks if I can just get them to sit still long enough. Ravelry *ID* kleindorf

Sam Kleinman

Hi, I'm Sam, the colorwork nerd at the store, you might know me as "tychoish" on ravelry.com. I've been knitting for 6 years now, which is a testament to brute determination and stubbornness, I think. I really enjoy making sweaters and doing stranded (2-color) work, and so with the exception of the errant pair of socks, that's what I knit. When I'm not desperately clutching the needles, I'm probably writing science fiction, working on getting into graduate school, and blogging at tychoish.com. I hope to see you at the store sometime!

Eileen Solomon

I've been knitting on and off for about 40 years. After a long break, I picked up my needles again about seven years ago. It got me through several seasons of high school football. Now both our boys are in college, and neither is playing football anymore, thank goodness. I'm still knitting.

Thi Miller

Hi, there. I'm the owner of Knitty Couture. I've been knitting for approximately 5.5 years, and it was truly a match made in heaven. A lover of sock and lace knitting, I find that I tend towards knitting involving smaller needles. I also collect and find inspiration from vintage knitting patterns.

Our displays

Currently in the shop are two gorgeous pieces created by staff members, Thi and Sam. The first is a basketweave cable shawl, knitted in Cascade Eco+ and was designed and knitted by Thi. Pattern for the basketweave cable can be found on the website blog.

In the west window is a drop-shouldered sweater, designed and knitted by Sam, and was knitted in un-dyed sportweight alpaca. The color work design of this pullover was taken mostly from the wonderful [Anatolian Knitting Designs: Sivas Stocking Patterns Collected in an Istanbul Shantytown](#) with some improvisations on a [traditional fair isle knitting pattern](#).

On the orange wall are two lovely lace shawls knitted in mohair, silk blends comparable to Rowan Kidsilk Haze. The shawls are the Print O' the Wave Stole found on Eunny Yang's website, www.eunnyyang.com.

There are also several socks and winter caps on display. One particular item that seems well

liked among customers is Elizabeth's Very Warm Hat which is technically two caps connected at the rim which allows it to be reversible and very warm, hence, the name. Patterns for the Mock Cable socks and Beige Beret will be available on the website blog soon. The pattern for Elizabeth's Very Warm Hat can be found in her wonderful book, *Knitting Around*.

Displays are constantly changing so be sure to check them out when you stop by to visit.

On the Needles

Ellen

Two pairs of socks (surprise!). A plain vanilla pair of men's socks in Lang superwash jacquard, blue/green/black/white Nancy Bush's Spey Valley sock from *Knitting on the Road* in the Sunbeam St. Ives greeny brown color. Romi's Muir Shawl in Spun silk from Henry's Attic Lady Eleanor in *Noro Transitions*.

Sam

I've finally finished the last of the projects that I started over the summer, a couple of plain sweaters, a stranded pullover, and a pair of socks, and I'm looking forward to starting new and different projects. I'm still working on Joyce Williams' "Morocco" Jacket from her book, *Latvian Dreams: Knitting from Weaving Charts*. Now that I've finally memorized the pattern, it looks like it's time to change things up again. Never mind, it's part of the fun. Next up: Another Jacket, I have the yarn ready, but I'm still wavering on the pattern: another version of Starmore's Henry VII as a jacket? Or a pattern of my own fabrication? Only time will tell.

Eileen

I've always got a pair of socks in the works. The current ones are in *Dream in Color Classy*, a worsted weight. They're for my older son, who wears a size 15 shoe. I'm also working on a Must Have Cardigan for myself and a pullover for my husband.

Thi

I have a v-neck sweater and a cream cardigan that begs to be seamed and finished, but I'm finding I have problems with finishing and letting go. I have an alpaca scarf in progress, and as always, socks on the needles because they're fun, portable, and quick. I also finished the Shetland Tea Shawl from Meg Swansen's *A Gathering of Lace* recently, and have been playing around with several potential pieces.

Seems I have a tendency to frog them because I just can't make up my mind.

Staff Picks

Ellen

There are several yarns in the shop that are wonderful.

Rowan Calmer,
Claudia's silk laceweight,
Jade Sapphire Cashmere laceweight, and
Dream in Color Smooshy

Sam

Meg Swansen and Joyce Williams' new book, *Armenian Knitting*, is a great treasure. It defines a knitting technique that allows us to knit stranded designs with large unbroken panels of color without needing to resort to intarsia. It's fascinating and brilliant, as you'd expect, given who the authors are. And the great news is that even though the sweaters look difficult, they're actually pretty simple, and the possibilities that the technique creates are both endless and inspiring. I encourage you to check it out the next time you're in the store!

Eileen

Now this is a hard question. I'm about to make something with the Highlander by *Alpaca with a Twist* and I'm really looking forward to it. I love *Lorna's Laces* and *Dream in Color Smooshy* for socks...and the *Rowan Calmer* makes me want to cry with joy.

Thi

Frontier Fiber Mill is a wonderful small producer and is my favorite company. Their alpaca is amazingly soft and completely natural. FFM creatively blends the natural colors of the alpaca fiber to produce beautiful colorways. My favorite, in particular, is their angora & alpaca blend in the cream color.

Jade Sapphire 100% Mongolian Cashmere is the best yarn I've knitted with thus far. The yarn maintains an amazing plumpness and is soft as a feather. And it's cashmere. I encourage you to try out the sample next time you're in!

If you want to spoil yourself, *Lantern Moon* needles are the way to go. My favorites are the *Sox Stix*. They are just so wonderful to knit with, more so than you would expect. I want to knit socks just so that I can use them.