

Knitting yarns

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October 16: Anne Blayney



Knitting designer Anne Blayney (AnnieBeeKnits) has a passion for colour and textiles. She knows just how exciting– and overwhelming– a shopping trip to your local yarn shop or a visit to your favourite online retailer can be, and she's here to help you find the colours and projects that will fit into your wardrobe instead of languishing in your stash or closet.

Anne will start with a basic review of colour theory, and look at how to combine colours to get energetic or calming effects. Then, she'll help you identify what colours you are drawn to and what colours make you sing, gathering inspiration from everyday life and from useful tools in the real world and online. She'll discuss how to pull those colours into a cohesive palette that is the most 'you'.

Next, she'll apply that colour palette and colour theory to yarn, moving beyond solid colours to the world of hand-paints, kettle-dyes, self-stripping, and variegated yarns that are so enticing in the skein but can prove more challenging to use effectively. She'll help you learn which types of yarns will work best with a variety of techniques for colourwork, lace, and cables, so that you can put your special yarn purchases to their best use.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Location

Innis Town Hall, 2 Sussex Ave.

NW corner of St. George St.

and Sussex Ave.

on the University of Toronto campus.

TTC Access

Five-minute walk south from

St. George subway station.

Parking available at several nearby locations.

Meeting Time: 7:30 p.m.

Doors Open: 6:45 p.m.

Admission

\$8.00 for guests

Free to Members

(please show card at door)



All Downtown Knit Collective meetings, functions and events are governed by the Rules of Conduct as determined by the Executive.

To read a copy of the Rules, please visit www.downtownknitcollective.ca/dkc_conduct.html

Highlights of the September Meeting *by Heather Brady*

Approximately 145 enthusiastic knitters packed into the Innis College auditorium for the Twist Collective trunk show.

Announcements

Carole welcomed everyone to the start of the 2013/2014 season. The new and returning members of the executive were introduced. Show & Tell was postponed until the October meeting due to time constraints.

Congratulations to Mary Pat McDonald, who just published her first pattern, Nejriri Cowl, on Patternfish.

The 2nd annual YarnOver SleepOver is already in the works– it will be April 11-13 in Orillia, Ontario. Well on its way to becoming a tradition!

A new email address (**feedback**) has been added to the downtownknitcollective.ca domain. All comments are welcome: suggestions, criticism, jokes, patterns... anything you like. As always, see the back page of the newsletter for a list of all guild email addresses.

Newsletter news: The password requirement has been removed, so anyone can now view the newsletter online. You spoke, we listened! Apologies for the mailing SNAFU for those who receive newsletter by mail– they did not get mailed. Also, the guild is still looking for a new meeting note taker. Please contact a member of the executive if you can help out.

Raffle

Prize packs courtesy of Twist Collective were given away to 10 lucky winners. Congratulations to Jeanne Hanna, Edna Zuber, Joan Kass, Jackie McKenzie, Pam Tremblay, Terri Schipper, Paula Wojcik, Nancy Felhaber, Janet Deline and Carole White.

Twist Collective

Twist Collective editor-in-chief Kate Gilbert spoke about how the popular independent knitting pattern website, now celebrating its fifth anniversary, was founded. Kate came from Montreal to join us– it's the first time she's been to Toronto in 17 years!

Kate says the idea behind Twist was to pair inventive patterns with beautiful photography, while compensating designers fairly. She approached knitwear designers and offered them a whole new compensation model. Twist designers are paid in proportion to the popularity of the pattern, and this model has proved extremely successful. Designers often hold back their best patterns for Twist, because they know it will generate the best returns. It's a platform for both fledgling and established designers from all over the globe– the work of designers from Indonesia, Sweden and Iceland were among those showcased over the course of the evening. PDF downloads have truly revolutionized the way knitting patterns are distributed.

Kate has surrounded herself with a crack team of writers and staff. Twist Collective personnel and designers in attendance included Laura Chau, Elizabeth McCarten (who endured an eight-hour trip in from Kingston due to massive train delays) Barbara Gregory, Glenna C and Carly, Twist's social media guru.

Kate said designers get the royalty whether you buy them through Twist Collective or Ravelry, though Kate prefers that you buy from Twist directly as the advertising helps pay for the writing and photography, and generally allows the magazine to exist. They try to make sure their ads are pretty and don't plop ads in the middle of the photo galleries or articles (beginning and end only). And by

all means, feel free to click on the ads!

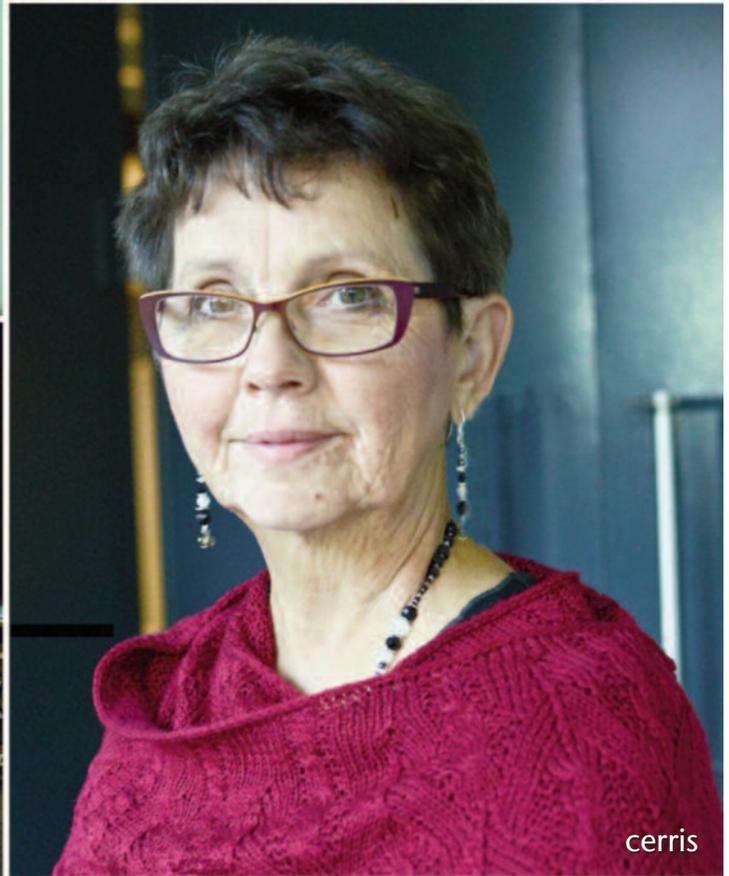
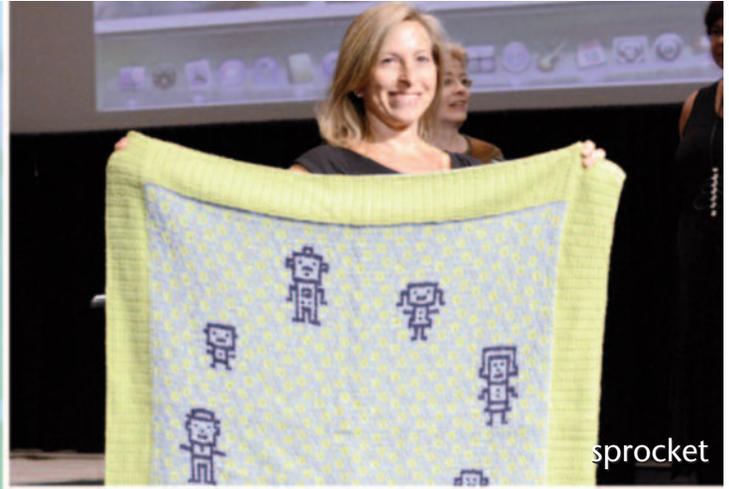
Fiona Ellis came up to MC for the fashion show. 64 garments from the new Fall collection were showcased, as well as an additional 23 pieces from Toronto-based designers. A constant stream of models came down the aisle to wow the audience, each with a helpful sign identifying the garment.

Each model carried a sign to help identify their outfit, and audience members were given a handout with the featured designs. Fiona will be posting the links on the DKC's Ravelry page so you can easily find them later.

Some highlights:

- Underwing mittens: look like a butterfly when put together
- Zigreta: cool neckline with interlocking hearts.
- Horatio and Oren mittens: they look like owls and even have little ears (and bums on the flip side!)
- Trifle: cute little ruffled jacket, perfect for a summer wedding
- Elwood: beaver and raccoon mittens, the thumbs are the tails! The audience went wild over these.
- Mehndi: cardigan with tattoo-inspired lace motifs.
- Athabasca: Fair Isle pattern creates flattering vertical stripes
- Cityscape cardigan: Laura Chau's first pattern with Twist, has a city skyline at the yoke.
- Peregrine sweater: sew up the neck to make it as demure (or not!) as you like
- Sideswipe socks: mirror images of each other, knit flat using self-striping yarn.
- Fine Kettle: cape with fish-like scales using two contrasting yarns.

With so many designers present, so many garments and models, it's definitely a first for the guild and made for a very memorable evening. Thanks to all who helped to put it together.



Knitting for a Cure by Joan Kass

Think Pink for October

October is national breast cancer month. Several of our members and close friends are breast cancer survivors including our own Doctor Knit.

The DKC's Knitting for a Cure Initiative continues to collect chemo caps, scarves and shawls for distribution to those undergoing treatment for cancer. Please deliver your items to Dr Knit at our monthly meetings.

Here are a few links to "think pink" patterns to inspire you:

Knitty Breast Cancer Awareness Issue (includes patterns for Boobie Scarf, Shedir Chemo Cap, LouLou Comfort Socks, Heart Scarf)

<http://knitty.com/ISSUEfall04/knittyF04surp.pdf>

Tit-Bits: Beryl Tsang's first-person account on the origins of her knitted breast and a pattern.

<http://www.knitty.com/ISSUEfall05/PATTbits.html>

Classic Elite's Yarns Pink E-Book: Ten knitting patterns to honour Breast Cancer AwarenessMonth, October 2010

http://www.classicelityarns.com/pdf/PinkCEY_EBook.pdf

Hat Patterns from the Get Well Gang in Gananoque, Ontario

<http://www.getwellgang.ca/index.php/hats/patterns>

Pretty in Pink Ribbons Chemo Cap

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/pretty-in-pink-ribbons>

Pink Ribbon Illusion Scarf

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/pink-ribbon-illusion-scarf>

Breast Cancer Awareness Scarf

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/breast-cancer-awareness-scarf-5>

Facts About Breast Cancer:

- One in four cancer diagnoses is breast cancer.
- Breast cancer will affect 1 in 9 Canadian women during their lifetime.
- In 2013 alone, it is estimated that 23,800 Canadian women and 200 Canadian men will be diagnosed with breast cancer.
- In 2013, 9,300 women in Ontario are expected to be diagnosed with breast cancer and 1,950 women will die from it.
- Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in women.
- Early detection helps fight breast cancer and thanks to scientific advances, we now know that regular mammograms are the most reliable way to find breast cancer when it's most treatable.
- The Canadian Cancer Society recommends that women aged 50 to 69 should be getting a mammogram every two years.

UPCOMING EVENTS

For the Love of Cloth

Support the Textile Museum of Canada and score some great deals on designer textiles from October 18-19 at the Volunteer Workroom, B-1 401 Richmond St. W. See textilemuseum.ca for further details.

Woodstock Fleece Festival

It's an annual event that invites fibre artists and others to join together in an atmosphere of appreciation, learning and camaraderie. Workshop registration is now open. Saturday, October 19 at Woodstock fairgrounds. 8:30 - 4:30, admission is \$6.

www.fleecefestival.com

CreativFestival 2013

Now in its 26th year, this massive multi-craft expo returns to the Metro Convention Centre on October 25, 26 and 27. Visit www.csnf.com for details and workshop registration.

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