
WWW: Preserving Traditional Newfoundland Knitting; Street Lace; On Cost of Making



Classic Newfoundland patterns and designs, including the famous “trigger mitts”. Image from CBC website.

Love this: [CBC profiles two Newfoundland-based knitters who are working to preserve traditional Newfoundland knitting patterns \(http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/knitting-pros-push-traditional-newfoundland-patterns-1.3077513\)](http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/knitting-pros-push-traditional-newfoundland-patterns-1.3077513). Shirley Scott – known as “Shirl the Purl” has been collecting samples of mittens, hats and scarves, and the patterns used to make them. She has passed her collection on to Christine LeGrow, the owner of Spindrift Handknits, who aims to keep these patterns in circulation, and keep this important part of Canada’s social history alive.

Wonderful, clever and moving: [a music video for band James \(http://www.thisiscolossal.com/2014/05/moving-on-stop-motion-ainslie-henderson/\)](http://www.thisiscolossal.com/2014/05/moving-on-stop-motion-ainslie-henderson/), **created entirely with yarn.**

I’m very excited about this [upcoming exhibition ‘A Whole Other World: Sub-Culture Craft’ at the Racine Art Museum \(http://www.ramart.org/content/whole-other-world-sub-culture-craft\)](http://www.ramart.org/content/whole-other-world-sub-culture-craft) in Racine, WI.

The show, focused on artists inspired by Doctor Who, Star Wars, Steampunk, and Superheroes, explores the intersection of art with cultural subjects that inspire devoted “fan” followings. A Whole Other World features a variety of objects and images, from quilts to prints to sculpture – either works directly inspired by these themes, or by the winding of these kinds of topics in-and-out of popular culture,.

I’m excited because it sounds *absolutely amazing*. Oh and also, the original [Bigger on the Inside \(http://www.knitty.com/ISSUEss12/PATTbigger.php\)](http://www.knitty.com/ISSUEss12/PATTbigger.php) scarf is part of the show.

Not Strictly Knitting, but utterly beautiful: [Street artist NeSpoon uses traditional lace patterns, textures and structures in very non-traditional ways \(http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/05/11/lace-street-art-nespoon_n_7256872.html?utm_hp_ref=arts&utm_campaign=naytev&utm_content=55512e55e4b0caee64f7b212\)](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/05/11/lace-street-art-nespoon_n_7256872.html?utm_hp_ref=arts&utm_campaign=naytev&utm_content=55512e55e4b0caee64f7b212).

This week's thought-provoking discussion: **"What Is Your Cost of Making?"**

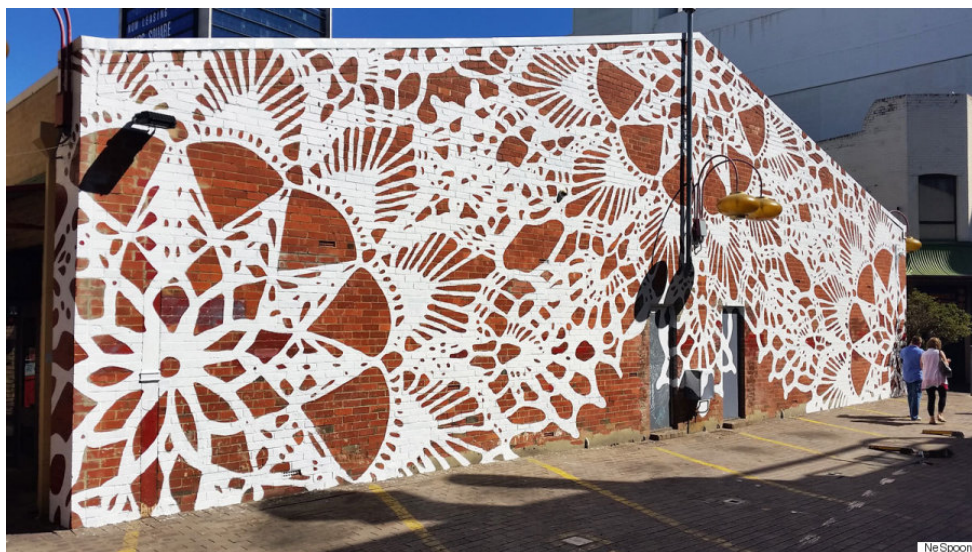


Image from Huffington Post website.

[\(http://www.knitbritish.net/what-is-your-cost-of-making/\)](http://www.knitbritish.net/what-is-your-cost-of-making/) Looking at both the cost to the knitter in the retail store, and the larger issue of cost all along the production cycle of the materials, this blog post addresses head-on the question of how much we're willing to spend to make a sweater.

Anecdotally, I see an interesting divergence in the way knitters think of the cost of the materials: is this an item of clothing, and should the yarn cost be considered in the context of a 'clothing budget', or is this a hobby, and is the yarn cost considered more in the context of 'entertainment value'? Some of this is driven, of course, by the knitter's available budget, but it seems to me to be an interesting demonstration of the shift in how we "use" knitting – we're not (just) doing it because we need clothes. Many knitters do it because they want 'entertainment', or the satisfaction of making, or to express a creative impulse – and the money considerations become very different. Although paying \$30 for a pair of socks is unquestionably outrageous, that figure can feel a little different if you consider the value of a couple of week's worth of crafting pleasure and the satisfaction and comfort of making a custom-fit item that you are proud to show off.

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@kateatherley (<http://knittyblog.com/author/kate/>) May 20, 2015

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3 thoughts on “WWW: Preserving Traditional Newfoundland Knitting; Street Lace; On Cost of Making”



Becky (<http://sew-and-so.blogspot.com>) May 20, 2015 at 12:09 pm

(<http://knittyblog.com/2015/05/www-preserving-traditional-newfoundland-knitting-street-lace-on-cost-of-making/comment-page-1/#comment-263200>)

That museum exhibition does sound absolutely amazing! And I love that they're encouraging costumes. Guess I'll have to hope that one of the East Coast museums near me picks this one up sometime, because I would definitely go!



Aimee May 20, 2015 at 8:23 pm (<http://knittyblog.com/2015/05/www-preserving-traditional-newfoundland-knitting-street-lace-on-cost-of-making/comment-page-1/#comment-263201>)

Why did you make me watch that video!? Now I'm crying in front of my DH over yarn. (Bittersweet).



baerenwolle (<http://baerenwolle.de>) May 21, 2015 at 2:13 am

(<http://knittyblog.com/2015/05/www-preserving-traditional-newfoundland-knitting-street-lace-on-cost-of-making/comment-page-1/#comment-263202>)

Such a sad, but beautiful video. I love stop motion. Thanks for sharing this!

I have been thinking about the cost of making, too. As a yarn dyer, I know not only the precise cost of dyeing yarn to sell, but also the cost of buying yarn bases of cutting-edge quality. Personally, I don't think of my yarn as particularly expensive, but being made here in Germany, it certainly isn't cheap either. My belief is that when you hand-craft something, you should try to use the best available tools and material to achieve

the best result you possibly can, simply because the time you spend is so worth it. Sustainability, quality and eco friendliness are the most important factors for me. The price comes in behind that.

Comments are closed.

◀ JILLIAN'S SPINNING: A WHEEL REFRESHED ([HTTP://KNITTYBLOG.COM/2015/05/JILLIANS-SPINNING-A-WHEEL-REFRESHED/](http://knittyblog.com/2015/05/jillians-spinning-a-wheel-refreshed/))

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