
MAJACRAFT CAMP

February 2017

We would love to welcome you to our next Majacraft Magic Camp!



**Featuring Laurie Boyer
(USA)**

Laurie Boyer:



The three yarn classes will be workshop choices- the application will be a whole group session on Sunday afternoon.

Slub Fun

Learn how to spin a comfortable and regular slub yarn. Then use this slub yarn to create the popular bobble yarn and Laurie's unique teardrop and icicle yarns. Warning! Create these yarns only if you want your knitting to be the center of attention. **Basic spinning skills required.**

Please bring the following equipment and materials to class:

- Spinning wheel with the largest orifice** (Woolly winders create too much tension and flyer hooks will catch the large texture so both should be avoided.) Double treadles will make starting and stopping easier.
- 2 empty bobbins**
- Lazy kate**
- Niddy noddy**
- 6 oz. of nice wool** (merino combed top or roving works well) prepared and ready for spinning.
- At least 1-2 oz. of plying thread on a cone** (8/2 cotton works well or anything that is fingering or sport weight that has a good drape).

Ultra Spongy Singles from the "Oh My God, Squeeze This" series

Learn how to construct Laurie's newest yarn creation. It has three layers, is an extra-bulky (2 sts = 1"), lightweight and well-balanced yarn that is a pleasure to spin and feels luxurious sliding through your hands as you knit your favorite project. It also doesn't seem to have a singles slant when knit on #10 or so needles. Even Mr. Whipple wouldn't be able to resist squeezing this ethereal yarn.

Intermediate to advanced spinners who have complete control of their wheels will find this most enjoyable. Please bring to class the following equipment and materials:

- Spinning wheel with the largest orifice** (Woolly winders create too much tension and flyer hooks will catch the airy fibers, so both are best avoided.) Double treadles will make starting and stopping easier.
- 3 empty bobbins**
- Lazy kate**
- Niddy noddy** optional
- 2 oz. of a prepared fine white wool** (merino works well) for the core and wrapper layers
- 1-2 oz. of a nice wool** (blue-faced Leicester, polwarth, merino, rambouillet work well) for the top layer.
- 5-1 oz of a coordinating silky accent** (silk, kid mohair, soy silk, ingeo, bamboo...) also for the top layer.

LB's Lock yarn

Learn how to create Laurie's lock yarn. Prepare the locks from raw wool that has been divided into large sections and scoured. Then using her special technique add them individually between two plies.

Please bring to class:

-**Spinning wheel with the largest orifice** (Woolly winders create too much tension and flyer hooks will catch and split the locks open, so both should be avoided.) Double treadles will make starting and stopping easier.

-**3 bobbins** (We will have time in class to spin the plies but you may have two bobbins already spun each half full and ready for plying. If you pre-spin your plies, the bobbins don't need to match your wheel but will need to fit onto your lazy kate. The plies don't need to be from the same fiber as the locks.)

-**2-3 oz. prepared locks** (Scour a raw fleece in sink-sized sections, dry, pull out each lock separately and fill a basket or shoe box full with all locks facing the same direction.)

-at least **2 oz. roving** for spinning into the plies

-**Lazy kate**

-**Niddy noddy**

Application of Highly-Textured Yarn

Or

What to Do With the Lumpy Stuff in My Stash

Please bring in your exotic or highly-textured yarn and we will discuss possibilities for usage and placement on garments or artwork. We'll consider nap, visual layering and silhouettes. You will see examples of textured yarn in proper and improper placement from my own experiments. A lot of effort went into creating that beautiful texture – let's keep it looking nice for a long time.



Isla Fabu

Spin yourself - create from the core!

A guided spinning session with some HoopYogini™ to release your natural creative capacity.*

The key to magic yarns and original creations is learning to pay attention to yourself and what's in front of you. Become fascinated with what's showing up! But how to do that and where to start? Right where you are, at your wheel with some fibre - spinning!

In a guided spinning session you practice how to slow down and relax, step out of your head and switch on all senses, observe with a beginners mind and activate your heart intelligence - at the same time as you create your very own special yarn!

With this method you will: enhance your spinning and designing skills as you improve your observing and listening abilities, develop new ideas as you spin and become more playful and fearless while creating - just to name a few benefits.

What to bring

spinning wheel,
100g fibre (ready to spin) which make you feel relaxed and are easy to spin (calming/neutral colour),
50g fibre (ready to spin) which make you feel happy and/or excited and you really love,
50g fibre (ready to spin) which you don't find very appealing and you wouldn't usually choose to spin with



Drop Spindling Textured Yarns

(beginners and advanced)

Spindling is an ancient craft and a brilliant way to take your spinning anywhere. But a spindle is also a fascinating versatile tool to explore fibres and texture wherever you go!

In this workshop I introduce you to some exciting techniques to spin and ply textured yarns on a drop spindle. Even if you have never tried spindling before you will master some basic techniques and become inspired to learn more!

Techniques include: spinning from art batts and fibre clouds (long draw and short draw), thick'n thin, wrapping, incorporating locks and add ins, thread plying

What to bring:

- Drop spindle

(I'm going to demonstrate on a Majacraft Turkish Spindle Set, which I use for all my drop spindled yarns from lace weight to bulky. If you don't have your own these spindles will be available to try and purchase.)

- 100g (or more) top or roving
- 100g (or more) misc fibres (e.g. locks, silk, art batts etc.)
- locks and yarn scraps to add in
- threads for wrapping and plying (commercial or handpun)



About Isla

Designer, Artist and emerging certified HoopYogini™ Teacher and Creativity Educator, lives in South Taranaki, NZ, born on an Island in the Baltic Sea, studied Interior Design and Graphic Design in Germany, and lived and worked as a Freelance Designer in Berlin, Italy and Ireland, learned spinning in 2011 in Ireland and has been in love with fibre ever since. In 2012 a hoola hoop entered her world and has been life changing in unexpected ways, passionate about natural fibres, botanical dyes and sustainable „slow“ processes, loves experimenting, exploring and pushing boundaries, in her fibre workshops she integrates HoopYogini™ (a holistic conditioning program integrating hula hooping, hatha yoga and mindfulness) to release natural creative capacities inherent in every human being.



On Friday evening Isla will give us an insight into Hoop Yogini and show some movements to relax back and shoulders after spinning.

Janet Day "All Wrapped up!"

Taking your fibre stash from batt to bobbin then straight onto the knitting needles to create a lovely fringed shawl or neck wrap!

No plying or skeining involved.

A finished wrap by the end of the camp - Wow! Transform your mixed bag of fibres into a lofty colourful batt then spin a textured 'yarn.'

Knit from your bobbin off the lazy kate straight onto your knitting needles - Pattern will be provided for all attendees.



Colour Coding

For those who missed out last year Janet has agreed to take another session of her very popular colour coding class. **'Colour coding' as it has become known, is the method of determining which colours suit an individual's natural appearance.**

What is your best colour red, why does this blue look better than another? As creative people who spend many hours making garments learn how to avoid that disappointment when you first wear your hand made creation but it just doesn't 'look' right on you. In this class there will be discussion and demonstration with colour in batt making and also colour coding shown on individuals. Kraft Kolour Landscape dye swatches will be used so that participants will know which colours in this colour range of dyes, suit them more.

Materials to bring

Each participant will need to bring a tea towel sized piece of cloth to drape around their neck. Different colours of mixed fibres (50 grams) to share so that batt making can be demonstrated Colour chart A4 hand out will be given

Janet has always had a love of textiles and colour and trained as a Tailoress prior to becoming a colour consultant with Vogue International. Many years later when she answered an advertisement in the local Horsham paper, about learning how to spin, Janet found all the elements she loved in one hand crafted pastime. Traditional methods of spinning are close to Janet's heart and she values their importance as a foundation on which to build; but it's the textured art yarn methods that make her fingers itch to get spinning and when she combines that with colour and the occasional weaving it equals fibre bliss for this artist.

Lara Nettle

Photography with your Smart Phone

So you've made something beautiful, and you want to show it off to friends and family. Lara will advise on ways to use your smart phone to photograph your beautiful fibre art to the best advantage.

Your stunning work deserves a little extra effort to take it from boring to brilliant, without the need for fancy instagram filters!

You don't need to understand iso or focal length, exposure or aperture - but a good understanding of natural light will improve both your project photography and every other snap you take too. The direction, intensity, contrast, and colour of light are fundamental to photography, and it's often the very last element we consider when preserving our work for posterity.

You'll learn how to pick great lighting conditions from poor ones, how to choose which shots to take, and how to manipulate natural light. You'll understand that great photographs are a product of great lighting and framing, not great camera gear!

About Lara:

I left school for the bright lights of a career in film and TV in the late 1980's. After working on films such as "Sirens", "Babe II", and "The Matrix", and TV ("Water Rats", "Wildside", and commercials), I studied computer science and philosophy at university. I have since worked in medical diagnostic equipment and computer hardware sales, still photography, and social media. I am a registered marriage celebrant (in Australia), and am the Auckland area delegate for Creative Fibre, as well as the social media coordinator for Outlaw Yarns. I am a lifelong fibrecrafter, and a passionate spinner and knitter.

Suzy Brown

Fibre Preparation for Extraordinary yarns

The creation of rich, dynamic, and vibrant colour is not dependant on the possession of mega dyeing skills, large pots and messy dyes, you don't have to splash your kitchen with colour bomb splodges or learn complicated techniques and chemistry to achieve amazing colours in your fibre! Using a few tools and some basic solid-colour pre-dyed fibre, you can create your own combinations for the most stunningly beautiful colours, add in bling and sparkle at whim, and control and manipulate your colour placement specifically for the yarn you want to spin.

Suzy will take you through the use of Wool Combs, Hackles and a Fusion Engine to show the best methods for making colour magic and the right preparation for your extraordinary yarns.



You will need to bring:

- any fibre preparation tools you own: Drum Carder, Hackle, Combs, Flick carder
- - A selection of fibers of any kind and any preparation (or as unprepared locks) in solid dye colours (naturals are also fine if you have a range of different shades). Try to bring at least 100 grams of each of the three primary colours red, yellow, and blue, and include a range of different shades of each if you can. Also a small amount of white and dark fibre is a useful addition (optional)
- Add-in sparkle fibers and bling such as silks, sari silk, silk hankies, angelina, fire star (trilobal nylon) tinsel..

Suzy was born and bred in New Zealand, with a background in many things that ranged from farm work to academic teaching. She learned to spin over 18 years ago at the urging of her Aunt and the call of the old woolshed where the lessons were held. Since then she leapt into a move to the other side of the planet and was based in the Netherlands, Europe for 12 years, where she held various art yarn and weaving workshops. She is still travelling the world to teach but is now returned to New Zealand where she remains in partnership with Arlene Thayer of Spin Artiste, co-creator of FiberyGoodness.com, together they run online fibre art courses.

Suzy has been published in Ply and Entangled Magazines, as well as the Dutch 'Vezel' (Fiber). She has written tutorials for Majacraft, and many for Fiberygoodness. She co-wrote the Journey to the Golden Fleece fiber Creativity Certificate course as well as the new S3 Sketch, Spin, Scribe Spinning course, and is responsible for a large range of step by step instructional spinning 'recipe' cards. Her own website, woolwench.com, is packed with mini-tutorials, instruction videos, and ebooks.



Pat Old

Ratios, Plying and all the tricky stuff

To spin an even balanced yarn is a discipline which forms the basis of many of our designer yarns. The emphasis is on design - designing the yarn we want to spin for a particular end use. This workshop is about PLYING - we will look at how to ensure consistency in the yarns that we spin

- Demystifying ratios
- Spinning a balanced yarn
- Tips and tricks to ensure consistency
- Playing with plying - novelties based on combining singles in controlled ways
- Spiral yarn
- Knot yarn - and worms
- Wrapped yarn,
- Crepe (cabled) yarn
- Finishing techniques - Why?



Requirements:

- ~ Spinning wheel and at least 3 bobbins, preferably 4
- ~ Lazy kate
- ~ Fine wool to spin, preferably prepared merino or similar
- ~ Questions to share
- ~ Class notes will be supplied



About Pat:

Spinner, weaver, dyer, knitter, and felt maker from way back - I guess I'm an all round fiberista! My interest in spinning was kindled when I met my sheep farmer / husband, and fuelled in the wool shed amid all that beautiful wool! I achieved HGA Certificate of Excellence in Spinning in 2005, and wrote "In a Spin - Handspun Yarn Design and Technique" in 2009. I now spin anything from all wool types to my own cotton and flax (New Zealand flax or "harakeke" - phormium tenax)

I am currently studying towards a degree in Maori Visual Arts majoring in raranga - the weaving of harakeke. Weaving but not as I previously knew it!

Pauline Chapman

Using your blending board for felting!

Pauline's work is inspired by her love of animals, especially dogs, horses and sheep; and also the flowers in her rambling cottage garden in the Oropi hills. Passionate about every aspect of felting, realistic 3D animal sculptures and felt pictures are her current obsession. She loves to share her enthusiasm and knowledge, so come join her on an exciting journey of endless possibilities into the woolly world of felting."

Bring your blending board if you have one. There will be a few available for use for those who don't.

