

# TEXTÍLMIÐSTÖÐ ÍSLANDS ICELANDIC TEXTILE CENTER

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#### **Crafts for the Future**

The world has opened up again and we've been out and about!

In May, we met with our project partners within <u>CENTRINNO</u> in Barcelona for the third on-site Consortium Meeting, followed by the Fabricademy Bootcamp in Geneva attended by our TextileLab manager, Margrét Katrín Guttormsdóttir. We traveled to South Greenland in July and the Faroe Islands in September to test slow-tourism, wool-themed tours developed within the framework of our NORA-funded collaboration "**Wool of the North**" (formerly "Wool, Walks and Workshops").

In September, we welcomed our project partners from "Allure", an Erasmus+ funded project led by the Ministry of Education in Galicia, and prepared for the start of "Heldurbu bræði". The innovative 9-week online course for textile entrepreneurs kicked off on September 20 and is taught via the University of within CENTRINNO. Iceland. our partner There are now 30 participants/ideas registered exciting! Also very on September 20, Fabricademy - Textile Academy, a multidisciplinary intensive program that focuses on new technologies applied to the textile field, was first taught at the TextileLab. See more info below!

Next up are the **Open Weekend** and presentations for **Portland Textile Month.** We will be hosting the **CENTRINNO Distributed Consortium Meeting** in Blönduós October 25 - 27, welcome students from the Reykjavík Academy of Visual Arts for a one-week study visit to the **TextileLab**, and prepare for a new international collaboration starting in spring 2023: the project "**Tracks 4 Crafts**" funded by Europe Horizon 2022. Bringing together traditional know-how with new and digital technologies is one of our missions, so we very much look forward to this collaboration.

This much for now, we have got work to do!



"Wool of the North" manager Svanhildur Pálsdóttir (top right) is excited to see that the project made the news in Greenland! Bottom left: "Allure" in Blönduós. Bottom right: Centrinno Meeting in Barcelona.

#### Fabricademy

Welcome Alberte, Ariane, Margrét, Emma and Alice, our <u>Fabricademy - Textile</u> and <u>Technology Academy</u> students! The six-month intensive program at the intersection of digital fabrication, textiles and biology runs distributively in many laboratories across the world, including the Textile Center's TextileLab, and kicked off on September 20. Students along with Louise Massacrier, the local instructor, will stay in Blönduós until April 2022 and participate in hands-on classes, online lectures and tutorials led by worldwide experts.

So far, the group has studied digital bodies and visited the FabLab in Sauðárkrókur where they did their own body scans. They experimented with

the laser cutter to create lattice hinge designs (a technique to cut wood so it becomes flexible as a fabric and can be bound or hung) and created modular textiles from seaweed waste. Next up are biochromes and biomaterials with the assistance of expert Catherine Euale and a visit to BioPol in Skagaströnd.

Students are sharing their experiences and experiments on the Textile Center's Instagram (@textilmidstod) - take a look!





### **CENTRINNO Updates**

Centrinno is still up and running, and will be until early 2024. We have been busy meeting, mapping and learning with our colleagues, both on site (during the Consortium Meeting in Barcelona, where we visited the pilot site and participated in workshops at the <u>Institute of Advanced Architecture</u>, <u>Institut</u> <u>Poublenou</u> and <u>Disseny Hub</u>) and online. Among the topics we discuss during coordination calls and training sessions are heritage, traditional crafts and smart cities; we work on assignments, collect data relevant for the Icelandic pilot and learn how to create tools for innovation hubs or use mapping software like KUMU. It is a lot of work, but incredibly inspiring.

From October 25 - 27, we will host a third of the consortium here in Blönduós for the **Distributed Consortium Meeting.** On the agenda are workshops and site visits to Kvennaskólinn, Ístex Wool Washery, the Textile Museum, Kidka Wool Factory in Hvammstangi and a guided tour around Blönduós Old Town. Let's hope the weather cooperates!

Find more info and updates on CENTRINNO, ongoing activities and the Blönduós pilot on <u>Youtube</u> (CENTRINNO EU) and the project website: <u>centrinno.eu</u> (#H2020 #centrinnoeu) and follow us on Facebook and Instagram: <u>@textilmidstod</u> / Facebook: <u>Icelandic Textile Center</u>)

## **Ós Residency News**

By the end of 2022, we will have hosted 54 artists in residence from Canada, Sweden, France, Germany, the USA, the UK, Israel, Finland, Poland, Hungary, Columbia, Argentina and Spain. They have worked in Kvennaskólinn and the TextileLab, organized exhibitions and open houses (see posters below) and explored their new (temporary) home Iceland on horseback, hiking, driving and in some instances, ocean swimming. The Textile Center's Instagram has now reached 4000+ followers, including many of our artists in residence. Look for @textilmidstod, #osresidency and #icelandictextilecentre to see what they are up to!

In June, we also welcomed 16 students from the Iceland Field School along with their professor, Dr. Kathleen Vaughan of Concordia University (in Montreal, Canada). For the full month, students worked on site to explore aspects of arts, community, environmentalism, tourism and museology, often with a textile inflection.

On the project website (<u>icelandfieldschool.ca</u>) you can find out more about the credit-earning program and how it aligns with Kathleen's research and creation trajectories as <u>Concordia University Research Chair in Art + Education for</u> <u>Sustainable and Just Futures</u>. In the <u>blog</u>, read student's articles and see their work.







IT [] NAAAA (NAAAA Exhibition at Icelandic Textile Center Arbraut 31, Blönduós 3-6 September 25 (sunnudag)

**Coming Up!** 

**TextileLab Open House** 

Come and join us for the TextileLab Open House this upcoming weekend, October 15 - 16! There will be workshops on the felt loom and embroidery machine, Knit Café, Q&A and pancakes, too : ) We love our TextileLab and are very happy to be able to share our joy! If you can't make the weekend, the Lab is open every Monday and upon appointment. Email margret.katrin(at)textilmidstod.is for more info.

#### **Portland Textile Month**

On October 20, the Textile Center's weaving expert Ragnheiður B. Þórsdóttir and project manager Katharina Schneider will present during the virtual event "Digital Weaving Panel Discussion" in connection with <u>Portland Textile Month</u>. The festival, featuring a variety of online talks, lectures and on-site workshops, is organized by <u>Textile Hive</u> with the mission to build community and foster cross-pollination among textile enthusiasts, artists, businesses, schools, and cultural organizations. Find the program and sign up for events on the Portland Textile Month website: www.textilex.org



We'll be back with new news and updates in the spring!



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