

TEXTÍLMIDSTÖÐ ÍSLANDS

ICELANDIC TEXTILE CENTER

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Making Spaces

We're all about making spaces these days. Physical spaces like the TextileLab, to create, innovate and experiment in. Digital spaces, because during the pandemic we all learned how to connect online and be more aware of the possibilities for exchange through digital platforms. This is also why we invite our artists-in-residence to do Instagram takeovers (@textilmidstod), stream on-site lectures ("Atmospheric Encounters" with our final Nordic-Baltic scholarship recipient [Heidi Pietarinen from Finland](#) on March 25) and host mini-conferences and workshops online ("[Wool, Tourism and Innovation](#)" on April 20 and "CLO-3D software" on April 22).

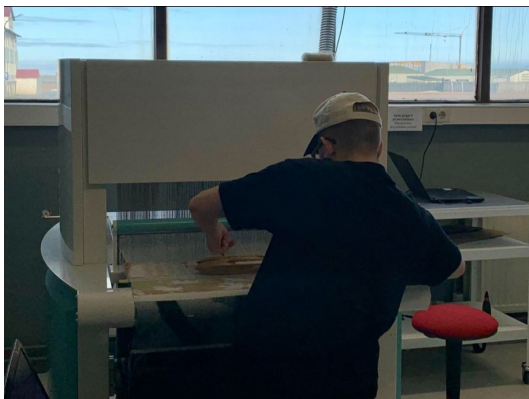
The TextileLab is now open every Wednesday and [by appointment](#). In recent months we welcomed students from local elementary schools, student groups from the Iceland University of the Arts and the Reykjavík School of Visual Arts for week-long study visits, representatives from the Tourism Department of Hólar University and teachers from VMA Comprehensive College in Akureyri. From April 22 to May 7, we hosted a series of multidisciplinary one-day workshops in collaboration with [Shemakes](#), an EU-funded project that the Textile Center participates in. For more details see below.

Looking ahead, there are many exciting projects down the road. We'll meet with

our partners within [CENTRINNO](#) in Barcelona in May, celebrate the Iceland Knit Fest in June and travel to Greenland in July to meet with project partners and participate in the [10th annual North Atlantic Native Sheep and Wool conference](#). The Ós residency is thriving, and in September we'll start teaching [Fabricademy](#), a multidisciplinary intensive course that focuses on new technologies applied to the textile field.

We are pleased to share with you our happy news from Iceland, but are well aware that this isn't the case in many places around the world. We are a member of Res Artis, the international network of art residencies; they have now changed a part of their website to function as a global information portal and offer resources for supporting creatives and arts-workers in the Ukraine. Please take a look [here](#) to see how you can lend your support.

Stay well in uncertain times. We'll be back with updates and news in the fall!



TextileLab visits: Product & fashion design students from Iceland University of the Arts (top and bottom left), students from Blönduskóli elementary school (bottom right) in March 2022.

Shemakes: Workshops in the TextileLab

In January 2022, the Textile Center joined [Shemakes](#), a two-year initiative funded by the EU Horizon 2020 program and involving 18 labs working with textiles in Europe. The main aim of the project, which started in 2021, is to

empower future female innovators of the sustainable fashion industry through inspiration, skills and networking.

From April 22 to May 7, we hosted a series of exciting one-day workshops from Soft Robotics and Biomaterials to Bacteria Dye in our TextileLab in Blönduós. Petra Garajová, [Institute of Advanced Architecture in Catalonia](#) graduate and Shemakes ambassador, came to stay with us and taught workshops in collaboration with our lab manager, Margrét Katrín Guttormsdóttir.

Next up are "[Wool Mondays](#)", three wool & wool research focused hybrid events held contemporaneously at Shemakes labs across Europe this May. Including our TextileLab! Register for [online lectures](#) on May 16 & 23 on the Shemakes website [here](#).



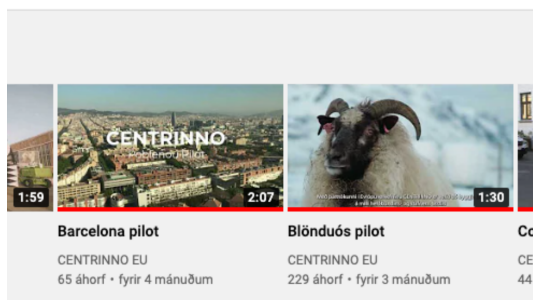
CENTRINNO: Sprint 2

We're now half-way through [CENTRINNO](#) and the second sprint period has started. On the agenda are bi-weekly online meetings and training sessions with work package leaders and partnering cities, and pilot activities here in Iceland. This includes further development of the TextileLab, heritage research, as well as the development of courses and workshops for different target groups in collaboration with our colleagues from the University of Iceland. On May 17 the entire team will travel to Barcelona to participate in the fourth Consortium meeting.

In other CENTRINNO-related news, we are now a fully fledged member (node) of Fabricademy! [Fabricademy_\(textile-academy.org\)](#) is a multidisciplinary intensive course that focuses on new technologies applied to the textile field. It's open to a wide-range of participants, runs distributively in many laboratories

across the world - including the TextileLab in Blönduós from September 2022 onwards - and combines hands-on making with online classes and tutorials led by worldwide experts. **Early bird registration ends on May 31.**

Find more info and updates on CENTRINNO, ongoing activities and the Blönduós pilot (including a new video!) on [Youtube](#) (CENTRINNO EU) and the project website: centrinno.eu (#H2020 #centrinnoeu) and follow us on Facebook and Instagram: [@textilmidstod](#) / Facebook: [Icelandic Textile Center](#)



Ós Residency News

"Art Residencies are great, I'm sure, but what do they do for the local community?" someone asked us once. A fair question! There's good research out there on the value of artist residencies in the context of remote rural communities, creative placemaking and beneficial value types (see Lehman's "artist residency value framework matrix"), but here's how we see it:

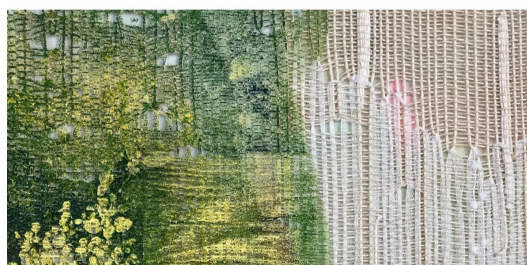
Our artists and scholars-in-residence are visitors, "slow travellers" really, who use the services we all depend on. They travel to Blönduós and sites of interest using rental cars and Stræto, the public bus service. They buy local products (yarn!), shop at the local supermarket and welcome guests who book accommodation in town. They love the Blönduós gym and swimming pool as much as we do, sign up for memberships, and eat at the local café. In a town of 940 inhabitants, all of this matters.

Resident artists inspire us, the Textile Center team, and help us feel connected to the world. They are creative minds and experienced professionals, who are happy to share their work and expertise with the local community. They host monthly art exhibitions, open houses, and present lectures and workshops in our schools. They form strong connections with Blönduós, the Northwest and Iceland in general, sharing stories and images with friends, family and social networks, weaving (quite literally) impressions and memories into their work. Speaking of, we recommend you take a look at our Ós Residency Catalog; we just published the [2021 edition!](#)

Long story short: Thank you, everyone who has stayed with us, come back, or is planning to join the Ós Residency. We sincerely appreciate it.



Icelandic Textile Center
Ós Residency Catalog



March 2022 artists at the Blönduós pool (top left). Online lecture with [Nordic-Baltic Mobility Programme](#) scholarship recipient Heidi Pietarinen (top right). Artwork showing Blönduós & Hróúey island by Dr. Kathleen Vaughan, professor of art education at Concordia University in Montreal (bottom left).

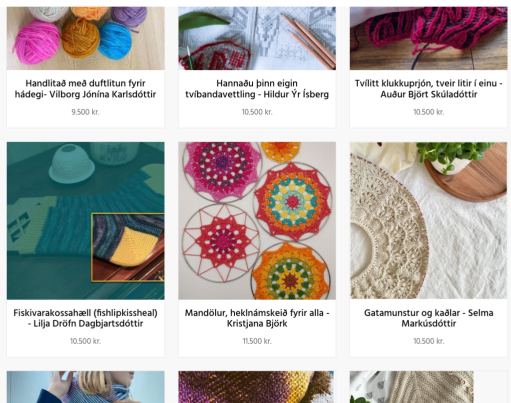
Coming Up!

Prjónagleði 2022

Break out your needles because the Iceland Knit Fest is just around the corner! The annual knitting extravaganza will be held in Blönduós June 10-12, 2022. Sign up for Icelandic and English workshops like "Fair Isle Knitting", "Solar Dying" and "Hairpin Lace Crochet" on [www.textilmidstod.is / webshop](http://www.textilmidstod.is/webshop) and follow [Iceland Knit Fest on Facebook](#) and Instagram #icelandknitfest for all the latest news and updates.

Wool, Walks and Workshops

Funded by NORA and led by the Textile Center, "Wool, Walks and Workshops" is a collaboration focused on developing wool-themed walks and tours in the North Atlantic region. In July we will present the project at the [North Atlantic Native Sheep and Wool Conference](#) in Narsarsuaq, Greenland and meet with our partners from [Innovation South Greenland](#), [Agricultural Agency of the Faroe Islands](#) and [Sommerakademiet](#) in Norway. Looking forward to it!



Þrygnagledi

2022
ICELAND KNIT FEST
BLÖNDUÓSI - 10.- 12. JÚNÍ

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



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