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Crafts for the Future

Spring is the season of new beginnings and we just started a new project we are very excited about!

Tracks4Crafts is a Horizon 2022 funded, four year European collaboration set to examine and transform knowledge about the transmission of traditional crafts. In today's world, crafts are valued as traditions and heritage, but they sit uneasily in an economic environment focused on high-tech and mass-production. The main aim of the project is thus to revive, validate and valorise crafts. Sixteen partners including the University of Antwerp, University Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne, the Association of European Open Air Museums and World Crafts Council Europe will collaborate to identify and test formats of knowhow transmission, both in physical spaces and with new digital technologies. A selection of pilot cases, including the Textile Center, working in different crafts traditions at different levels of experimentation is at the center of Tracks4Crafts.

The Kick-Off meeting was held in Antwerp, Belgium March 22-24, 2023. We look forward to this collaboration.





Tracks4Crafts Consortium Meeting held in Antwerpen March 22-24, 2023. Images: Textile Center.

DesignMarch 2023

DesignMarch, the annual design festival, will be held in Reykjavík May 3-7, 2023. This year, the program includes an exhibition by our Fabricademy - Textile and Technology Academy students Alberte, Margrét, Emma and Alice! "New Directions" showcases participants projects that explore the intersection of textiles, digital fabrication and biology. Each project's exploration questions what textiles are and can be. The projects range from heart disease awareness with wearables, parametrically designed textiles generated from dance, reformulating the porcelain slip casting process with local biomaterials to haptical and inflatable objects made out of local seaweed.

Come to the Ocean Cluster House (also known as "Bakkaskemman"), Grandagarði 16 in Reykjavík to take a look! (Not right away. In May!)



CENTRINNO Updates

How can we build a regenerative wool and textile ecosystem in Iceland? To gain more insight and see where the opportunities lie, we mapped the current wool value chain across Iceland with the Metabolic Institute, our partners within CENTRINNO, highlighting both existing challenges and best practices. You can see the final result here: https://www.centrinno-cartography.org/blonduos

In other CENTRINNO news, we are currently in the middle of the third pilot sprint and getting ready for the next Consortium Meeting which will be held in Copenhagen at the end of May. We really enjoyed hosting one third of the Distributed Consortium Meeting in Blönduós last October - and yes, the weather did cooperate! On the agenda were site visits and workshops led by the Centrinno work package leaders, researchers from the University of Iceland and the Textile Center pilot team. For our workshop "How to build an innovation hub in rural Iceland", we invited representatives from the municipal government to participate, which resulted in great presentations from the different work groups (see image below).

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>)





Distributed Consortium Meeting in Blönduós October 25. - 27., 2022. Images: Textile Center.

Ós Residency News

Ós Residency is thriving and we are very happy about that! Artists in residence now have the option of booking sessions / equipment in the TextileLab, which opens up a whole new world of possibilities. The felt loom, digital looms and digital embroidery machine are particularly sought after, as is our brand-new digital knitting machine. The Kniterate, however, is not yet accessible for makers except within the framework of special workshops,

like the digital knitting class we are offering during Prjónagleði, the Iceland Knit Fest in June (see more info below).

April 1 - 23 we offered a series of workshops in the TextileLab ("April Month of Workshops") covering topics from biomaterials and electronics to 3D printing. A great introduction to the world of textile innovation and all the exciting things happening worldwide in the textile and materials design fields! Such programs are always open to everyone, including artists-in-residence.

Artists-in-residence are also welcome to participate in the annual Ós Residency Catalog. The 2022 edition is almost finished and will be ready for print-on-demand on Blurb next week.





Artists-in-residence can sign up for workshops we offer and participate in the Art Residency Catalog.

Coming up!

In 2023, Prjónagleði - the Iceland Knit Fest - will be held in Blönduós during the weekend of June 9 - 11.

As always, festival activities include many different workshops in Icelandic and English on a wide range of knitting topics, lectures, a market place and knitting competition. This year's theme is **New Uses for Old Icelandic Sweaters:** Take an Icelandic sweater ("lopapeysa") and use it to create a new, wearable garment. **Deadline for submissions is May 15!**

Ticket sales for workshops opened in April. Sign up for "The Magic of Slip Stitch", "Knitting Men", "Corazo & Kría" and other classes at the <u>webshop on our website</u>, www.textilecenter.is

We look forward to seeing you in June :)

... and we'll be back with more news and updates in the fall!







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