



Knitted Tomo-what?!

“Knit your landscape, with whatever you can find!”

A creative project for children aged 5-9.

From the morning trip to school to the bedtime story—trees, animals, water, streets, parks, create a landscape, which is part of your life. This landscape is inspiring: the blues of the sky, the crisp sound of the rain, the woosh of the grass, the funny jigsaws of the pavement. For many artists and designers, this everyday environment is an immense source of inspiration. The patterns of flowers become prints; the shape of a leaf inspire a new sofa or a car...

At the School of Textiles and Design, we are always looking for new ways to create from our landscape!

This is what the project “Knitted Tomographies” is about. The participants involved in this project create a small piece of knitted textile inspired by the landscape of the Scottish Borders. Altogether, their creations will form a large patchwork which will represent the landscapes of this area of Scotland. This final artwork will be presented in Summer 2021 at the Great Tapestry of Scotland Centre in Galashiels, amongst other places.

Just like this group of designers, why not create your own knitted mini-textile? Observe the landscape, spot the colours and shapes, and start gathering the material for your knitting. You can use materials found in nature or in your home, as long as it can be turned into a long yarn: an old tee-shirt, a piece of seaweed, the stem of a flower, a thread of raffia, a wasted plastic bag. The tutorials created by #Almaborealis will help you to learn how to knit.

Once created, please take a photo and post on Instagram! Don’t forget to tag using these hashtags: **#knittedtomographies #knittedtomowhat #almaborealis #schooloftextilesanddesign #hwtex**

Be inspired, be creative and have fun!

What is a knitted textile? This is a fabric made from one long yarn or stripe, like the material of your tee-shirt, pants, socks.

Size of your mini-textile: Approximately 15 x 15 cm

Material: Anything you can find from the landscape and your home, and 2 pencils! You will need the support of an adult to create your mini textile.



How to knit? Tutorials, by Almborealis:

<https://youtu.be/D5kD9vEMH5w>

<https://youtu.be/a4nUDkQV53U>

<https://youtu.be/5kmp7xU72vg>

Knitted Tomographies

Knitted Tomographies:

<https://www.knittedtomographies.com>

@knittedtomographies

Tomographies are images made from multiple sections. Normally used in scientific visualisation, we take this idea of multiple perspective and apply it to an exploratory arts project. Developed during the COVID-19 pandemic and a time of limited connections, *Knitted Tomographies* asks the local Galashiels community and the School of Textiles and Design to engage in collaborative making to celebrate their place. Knitting, along with other handmaking crafts, is a significant making practice as well as a means for therapy, socialising, and overall hand-eye engagement. It is, therefore, a key action and practice that bridges a variety of disciplines, purposes, and forms. We explore the act of knitting as a collaborative participatory art design practice that enables a new way of understanding place, memory, and collaboration to create a new type of town model.

This project, developed by Dr George Jaramillo and Angela Cassidy, lecturers at the School of Textiles and Design, is funded by the Energise Galashiels Trust through the Placemaking Initiative of the Scottish Government. It is further supported by a Resilient Learning. Communities grant of Heriot-Watt University.



In collaboration with Almborealis, by

Maija Nygren:

<https://almborealis.com/>

Almborealis is the creation of Maija Nygren, a Finnish knitwear designer, passionate environmentalist and a mother. Maija grew up in Finland surrounded by knitting, and her grandparents' inherent ability to re-use material goods. Making is part of Maija's DNA; but given today's environmental challenges, she only creates new products if they carry substantial meaning and have a purpose beyond being a disposable commodity. Maija trained at the School of Textiles and realised that she didn't want to be part of our throw-away culture - and create more stuff that will just end up on the landfill!

Maija specialises in designing for kids, although many of her creations are equally enjoyed by an adult audience. Inspired by her previous career in children's theatre design, classic toy designers and early childhood educational theorists, Maija designed a 'future proof' clothing concept that protects from elements, passes on traditional craft skills, and endures through growth spurts of children.

Resource:

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/exhibitions/fashioned-from-nature>

Further information can be found on School of Textiles and Design website:

<https://www.tex.hw.ac.uk/>