



City Knitting hosts **A Shore Thing with Cat Bordhi**

Friday, September 24- Monday September 27, 2010

Please see the separate download on our website for a brochure listing the full schedule.

Check-in begins Friday afternoon at 2:00 pm. Checkout Monday by 11:00 am.

Saturday Class: Really Personal Footprints for Rebellious Sock Knitters

Description: In 2008 I set myself the challenge of developing a sock knitting process that would be as simple as humanly possible without sacrificing fit or design possibilities, and my book, *Personal Footprints for Insouciant Sock Knitters*, seems to have met my goal.

These socks are knit 100% in the round, with no rows or purling. There are no short rows, no stitches to pick up, no gauge calculations, no gussets, no heel flaps, and no grafting. However, to keep the method simple I had to limit choices of toe and heel, and require that the foot operate in multiples of 6 stitches. This all works quite well, but is limiting. Were I a reader rather than the book's author, I would have rebelled against these limits pretty quickly, and so I welcome you to gather with me for a mass rebellion of intelligent minds.

In this workshop, you will follow the book's basic premise of knitting to fit your foot and recording your foot's requirements on a cut-out footprint for future use, but you will choose (or invent) any toe you like, and will shape the foot and fit your heel using any arrangement of decreases and durability elements you like. I will teach and discuss a variety of toes and heel strategies, hoping to inspire you to take matters into your own hands, on your own feet, and find yourself in the end with a unique and perfectly fitted Personal Footprint to use insouciantly again and again. Personally, I can't wait to be among all you rebels.

Class supplies: Please choose yarn colors that allow you to easily see what you are doing - no charcoal!

Needles may be dpns, 1 long circ, or 2 circs. I want you to make fast progress in class, so choose a worsted weight wool. Bring your choice of needles in a size that gives you fabric that is dense yet elastic, also bringing several additional so you can adjust if necessary. Also bring a piece of cardboard large enough to trace your foot on (like a cereal box), and scissors for cutting it out. If using dpns, you will also need one 24" or longer circular needle for trying the sock on and opening the leg; it can be the same size or smaller than your dpns.

Sunday Class: Finding the Fountain of Fresh Knitting Ideas

Description: This workshop is child's play—yet generates startling and stunning designs which your well-behaved brain would never lead you to otherwise. Are you an aspiring designer or inquisitive knitter who'd like to know where to get great ideas and how to apply them? Over the years Cat has devised a handful of playful methods for generating such an overflow of original design possibilities that among them there are sure to be dozens that you'd want to knit if you had more than twenty-four hours in a day.

We'll generate ideas as a team, then work in pairs, and finally, each student will work independently to solve chosen design problems. This is an exciting, high-energy class, which will leave you renewed, refreshed, and frustrated that you can't spend your whole life knitting. Fortunately, the methods taught in this class can be applied outside of knitting, to generate innovative responses and solutions to most of life's problems, such as – how to have more time to knit!

Class supplies:

Yarn, needles, scissors, graph paper, colored pencils, tape, and a little collection of small odd things from around your house (such as a green rubber band, a kitty toy, a sea shell, a book of matches, etc.—look in your catch-all drawer and surprise us). A dodecahedron die, should you have one sitting around, may come in useful as a chastity belt for your logical mind.

Retreat Information

Please print this document. Remember your class supplies list is on the first page.

About the cottage and the area:

You can see photos of the cottage on the separate brochure. It is a newly built lakefront cottage, modern, roomy, charming, and very comfortable. It is in Holland, Michigan, about halfway between the Holland harbor and Port Sheldon harbor to the north. The open kitchen, dining, living and seating area will be where we spend out time together. There is also a screened porch and a deck. From all of these areas we will enjoy views of the lake and its glorious sunsets.

In September, the trees will be changing colors, but the days are often still warm. It could also be chilly and rainy, you never know. You should certainly plan to do some walking on the beach. If you are very hardy, bring a swimsuit for a dip in the lake. The steps down to the beach are about the equivalent of two flights of stairs. If you enjoy biking and can bring your own, you certainly can spend some of your free time on Holland's extensive bike trail system, which you access right from the cottage.

There are three bathrooms and showers, one with a tub. Because we have some limitations on our space for sleeping, we can not accommodate companions who do not participate in the retreat. Rooms will be shared. It is a quiet area without traffic.

Bedroom A has a double bed for 2 knitters.

Bedroom B has a queen bed for 2 knitters.

Tiny Study Room C has a bed nook not quite as wide as a twin for 1 petite knitter.

Master Suite D with a queen bed for 2 knitters.

Room E with bunk beds and a single bed for 3 knitters (one of them nimble for the upper bunk).

Main floor has a Den F with a queen sized sofa bed for 2 knitters.

Bedding and towels are furnished.

A short stroll down the lane are separate tiny cottages where Cat, Lorilee and a cook/helper will sleep.

There will be some free time. Some of you may decide to carpool into historic downtown Holland. It takes about 20-25 minutes to drive downtown. I will have maps for you to find Holland's two yarn shops, Lizzie Anne's and Friends of Wool. There is also a great old time candy shop, coffee shops, bookstores, clothing and shoe stores. Some of you may want to do this after the retreat ends Monday.

Upon confirmation, I'll send you maps and ask if you have any special food requests. If you are flying in, GRR is the airport code for the Gerald R. Ford International Airport in Grand Rapids. You could pick up a rental car at the airport. The drive to the cottage will take about 50-60 minutes from there. I can not offer a driving service, but will connect you with other retreaters so you can coordinate transportation.

Registration Form

Cost is \$625, which includes all instruction, meals and snacks, and accommodations. It does not include transportation. Most of you will be in a shared room, and many will share a double or queen bed. If you are coming with a friend, and wish to room together, please be certain you both indicate this on your registration forms. I will discuss your room assignment options when we speak to confirm your registration. I do not wish to set different prices for different rooms, so we will assign them on a first come, first served basis.

How will the retreat be filled? How will you know if you got in? I want this to be a fair process for everyone. Spots will be filled on a first come first served basis; I will look at your envelope's postmark dates to determine this. (Sorry for the inconvenience of not doing this online- thanks for understanding.)

I will accept the first 12 registrants. The next 12 will be wait-listed.

When I receive your registration, I will confirm it right away by e-mail and/or a phone call to let you know I received it, and whether or not there is room for you. Your place is held until I reach you. Once we confirm with each other, and agree to a room assignment, I will deposit your check, securing your place in the retreat. You will then receive a map and receipt by mail.

If your registration arrives after the retreat has filled, I will still contact you. Your choices then will be to have me hold your check and place you on a waiting list, or you may have me return or destroy your check and registration.

Status updates will be posted at www.city-knitting.com.

Refund policy:

Once we have confirmed with each other as outlined above, the only way to get a refund will be in the case that I can fill your spot from a waiting list. Due to the nature of planning an event like this, I cannot issue a refund even due to illness, unless I can fill your spot from the wait list. This policy applies from now through the beginning of the retreat.

Name _____

Address _____

City, St, ZIP _____

e-mail _____

I will be sharing your e-mail addresses with confirmed retreaters. Is this okay? Y N

Phone- only list those you wish me to use.

home: _____ mobile: _____ work: _____

If you are driving, are you willing to drive for a carpool to town or dinner during the event? Y N,

How many passengers can you take in your vehicle? _____

Are you hoping to room with a friend? Their name _____

Write your check for \$ 625 to City Knitting.

Mail it to Lorilee Beltman, 1535 Pontiac Rd SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506.