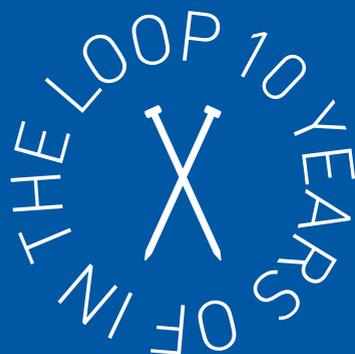


UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton

IN THE LOOP AT 10

WINCHESTER SCHOOL OF ART
IN THE LOOP 10 YEARS 2008-2018



WELCOME



Welcome to **In the Loop at 10**, a celebration of ten years of the conference and the Knitting Reference Library at Winchester School of Art.

This is my first conference as the new Head of Winchester School of Art Library. Since its launch in 2008 In the Loop has been on the road from Southampton to Shetland via Glasgow. I very much wanted for this special anniversary to bring it back to Winchester School of Art where it started and for the focus to be on collections, which are at the heart of our work here at the Library.

I am delighted that Linda Newington, the founder of In the Loop, opens the conference with her unique reflections on the last ten years. Jessica Hemmings, who co-organised the first conference with Linda, returns. Her keynote will encourage all of us, academics and practitioners alike, to reflect on the politics of knitting. And I am thrilled to welcome Ingun Grimstad Klepp to her first In the Loop conference. Ingun's keynote will address the history of knitting in Norway in the context of sustainable development in both knitting and textiles.

Alongside these thought-provoking keynotes, we have a huge variety of papers exploring contemporary and historic institutional collections in libraries, museums, and archives, as well as personal collections, designer collections, and collections of narratives.

I hope that the sharing of knowledge and practice from so many diverse collections at this conference will lead to an exciting new wave of research and engagement in all aspects of knitting.

Happy Anniversary!

Catherine Polley
July 2018

DAY 1

THURSDAY 19TH JULY

09:00–09:40 Registration

9:40–10:00 Welcome

10:00–10:40 Keynote Linda Newington
In the Loop at 10: a reflection with some of my favourite things

10:40–11:10 Refreshments

11:10–11:30 Introduction to Collections (see right)

11:30–11:40 Break

11:40–13:15 Parallel sessions (see right)

13:15–14:40 Lunch
Lunch and opportunity to explore the Knitting Reference Library and WSA Library collections

14:40–15:40 Keynote Ingun Grimstad Klepp
Knitting and wool as Norwegian and sustainable

15:40–16:00 Refreshments

16:00–17:30 Parallel sessions (see right)

17:30–18:30 Reception, The Winchester Gallery

19:30–22:30 Conference Dinner, The Paul Woodhouse Suite, Winchester Cathedral

Lecture Theatre A

11:10–11:30 – Introduction to Collections
Catherine Polley and Donna Ballan,
Knitting Reference Library

COLLECTIONS

11:40–12:00 – Julie Orford & Ruth Churchman
Adventures in mathematical knitting and ‘Confounding Colours’ in the National Museums Scotland (Science)

12:00–12:20 – Hanna Backstrom
Researching the development of printed manuals for knitting and crochet in Germany ca 1800-1870: bibliographical sources, their limitations and merits

12:20–12:40 – Danielle Sprecher
Knitwear in the Westminster Menswear Archive: building a collection

12:40–13:00 – Carol Christiansen
Assessing Shetland Museum’s Fine Lace Knitting Collection

13:00–13:15 – Questions to the panel

PRACTICE AND PROCESS

16:00–16:20–Freddie Robins
Collected – used and abused

16:20–16:40–Rosina Godwin
Freudian inspired knits: combining humour with repulsion to challenge phallogocentric views on beauty and femininity

16:40–17:00–Clare Sams
Floods, fatbergs, and feral pigeons

17:00–17:20–Alice Blackstock
What to do with a lifetime of touched objects?

17:20–17:30
Questions to the panel

Westside Lecture Theatre

11:10–11:30 – Introduction to Collections
Ruth Gilbert, Barbara Smith, and Angharad Thomas, Knitting & Crochet Guild

WELLBEING

11:40–12:00 – Rachel Matthews
Knitting: affect, value and health

12:00–12:20 – Jean Oberlander
What is softness, but a well worn jumper: unravelling the cross-overs of love, memory and tactility in knitting

12:20–12:40 – Emily Rickard
Co-design and collaboration in the Knit Well Project: using colour and emotion to enhance wellbeing through a knitting collective

12:40–13:00 – Alison Hood
Knitting sacred space: when process and person become the sacred

13:00–13:15 – Questions to the panel

KNITTING NARRATIVES

16:00–16:20 – Rose Sinclair
The Crocus Bag stories: reclaiming personal and collective histories and struggle through knitting narratives

16:20–16:40 – Sarah Filmer
Knitting and wondering

16:40–17:00
Alison Meakes
Exploring archaeological collections of early knitting from the Middle East

17:00–17:20
Adrienne Sloane
Knitting & Craftivism: knitting in the news

17:20–17:30
Questions to the panel



LINDA NEWINGTON

In the Loop at 10: a reflection with some of my favourite things

A welcome presentation and personal review for the tenth anniversary of *In the Loop* reflecting on those 10 years since the first conference **In the Loop: past, present and future** was held at Winchester School of Art in 2008, organised with Jessica Hemmings. It will include both highlights and some of the difficulties encountered.

There will be a particular focus on the potential role of libraries and museums alongside their knitting-related collections wherever located, whatever shape, however managed. Creativity, collaboration and community have been essential to the KRL in developing access and participation, from cataloguing to pom-pom making.

Discovered in the collections - bags, balaclavas, bandages, books, elephants, gloves and mittens, jumpers, patterns, poodles, postcards, rabbits, *Spare Rib* and *Stitchcraft* – some favourite things will be included in this presentation, revealing the perhaps unexpected aspects of knitting.

Some questions for the audience at this celebration of *In the Loop* will focus on collections and their continued role in the profiling of knitting.

Linda Newington trained as a librarian at the British Museum (Natural History) curating the collection of drawings, paintings and prints held in the Botany Library. In 2007 she completed an MA in the History of Textiles and Dress with the Textile Conservation Centre. Her dissertation focused on the image and status of knitting in relation to the Knitting Collections. She led and developed with colleagues the Knitting Reference Library (KRL) and the series of **In the Loop** conferences starting in 2008. She has published on artists' books and the knitting collections in a wide variety of journals and magazines. Linda moved to Shetland in October 2016 after 30 years at Winchester School of Art Library and is now "free range".

DR. INGUN GRIMSTAD KLEPP

Knitting and wool as Norwegian and sustainable

This presentation consists of two parts where the first one looks at the history of knitting in Norway, while the other looks at what is happening related to locally produced knitting yarns. Both perspectives - national and home/domestic production and consumption - will be discussed related to the work of sustainable development for clothing and textiles.

What do we know about Norwegian home knitting practices, compared to other countries, and why are knitted garments so popular as clothing and as an integral feature of home production in Norway? Ingun will describe the Norwegian historic perspective based on the book she, together with Tone Skårdal Tobiasson, will publish this fall, and present some of the factors that contributed to knitting's status in Norway today. Wool and local production are central to the KRUS project, led by Ingun. The project is called KRUS, which means "crimp", as Norwegian wool is known for its exceptional crimp ("bounce"), lustre and durability.

Based on the efforts to develop local production and wool from older breeds, she will describe what is happening in the Norwegian yarn market. How are regions, farms and breeds used in marketing and developing new knitting yarns? Does the yarn being "Norwegian" play a role? In conclusion, both of these discussions merge in the story of knitting as "Norwegian" and in its potential for contributing to the sustainable production and consumption of clothing.

Research Professor Ingun Grimstad Klepp works at Consumption Research Norway (SIFO) at Oslo Metropolitan University. She has a PhD and Magister atrium in ethnology from the University of Oslo. Her interest lies in the connection between material and cultural aspects of clothing and consumption. She has written several books and articles about wool, laundry and clothing. Most of her projects contribute to the debate on sustainability and the environment. Local production, the use phase of clothing, and use properties of wool are important keywords. She enjoys collaboration and publishes and disseminates frequently with Tone Skårdal Tobiasson, Kirsi Laitala and Kate Fletcher.

Photographer Tone Tobiasson



DAY 2

FRIDAY 20TH JULY

09:00–09:20 Registration

09:20–10:20 Keynote Jessica Hemmings
Challenging Knitting

10:20–11:00 Refreshments

11:00–12:30 Parallel sessions (see right)

12:30–13:40 Lunch
Lunch and opportunity to explore the Knitting Reference Library and WSA Library collections

13:40–15:30 Parallel sessions (see right)

15:30–16:00 10 Year Anniversary afternoon tea

16:00–17:00 Plenary Session

17:00 End of Conference

Lecture Theatre A

HISTORIC TEXTILES

11:00–11:20 – Jane Malcolm Davies
Ways of seeing: an online digital collection for the scientific study of early evidence for knitting

11:20–11:40 – Frances Casey
Knitting for the War Effort during the First World War: a reappraisal

11:40–12:00 – Cary Karp
Taking a Loupe to the Loop

12:00–12:20 – Louise Scollay
Archive treasure: a snapshot of Cleekit gloves

12:20–12:30 – Questions to panel

KNITWEAR DESIGN

13:40–14:00 – Sandy Black
The knitwear revolution: British designer knitters of the 1970s and 80s

14:00–14:20 – Susan Strawn
Finding Virginia Woods Bellamy: a mid-century knitting collection

14:20–14:40 – Constance Willems
Once upon a knitting time

14:40–15:00 – Annie Shaw
Seamless spaces: from then to now

15:00–15:20 – Amanda Smith & Rachele Moore
Knit: co-design and the designer-maker

15:20–15:30 – Questions to the panel

Westside Lecture Theatre

STORYTELLING

11:00–11:20 – Alex Franklin
Unravelling Miss Marple: knitting, intuition and ageing femininity

11:20–11:40 – Lorna Hamilton Brown
Black people don't knit?

11:40–12:00 – Helen Pleasance
Collecting literary knitters

12:00–12:20 – Saskia de Bodt
Knitting as a metaphor

12:20–12:30 – Questions to panel

PATTERNS, MATERIALS, INNOVATIONS

13:40–14:00 – Beth Ranson
Nature as a 'smart' material: a collection of knitted experiments

14:00–14:20 – Olle-Petter Melin
Methods for knitting multicolored patterns: a survey of instructions in knitting manuals

14:20–14:40 – Zoe Fletcher
Designing for breed: a design-oriented toolkit for understanding purebred British wool for knitwear

14:40–15:00 – Cassandra Milani
The evolution and commodification of the Fair Isle knitting tradition: 1850-1938

15:00–15:20 – Gieneke Arnoli
Breien! – Knitting! The story about a surprising and successful exhibition on knitting at the Museum of Friesland, Leeuwarden in 2016

15:20–15:30 – Questions to the panel

PROFESSOR JESSICA HEMMINGS

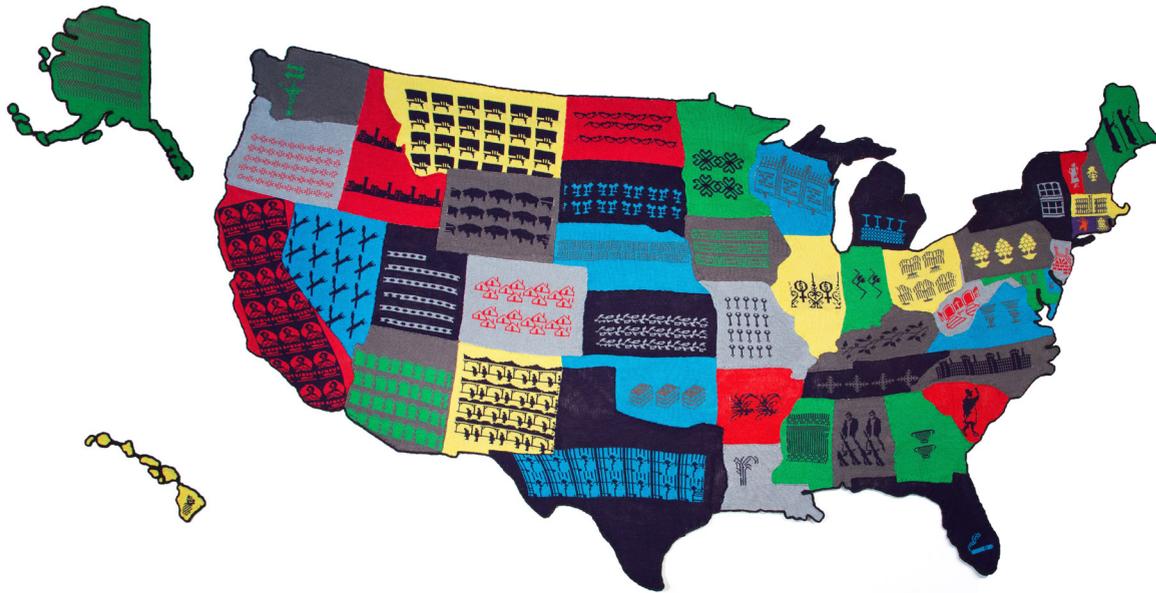
Challenging Knitting

In the decade since I co-organised with Linda Newington the first In the Loop conference, the profile of knitting has arguably expanded, but also maintained certain unspoken boundaries. This presentation aims to both be about knitting that speaks to the political challenges of the past decade, as well as present a challenge to knitting research.

Examples of knitting that deal with topics such as immigration, racism and violence will be considered, including work by artists Kate Just (Australia/USA), Cat Mazza (USA), Mary Sibande (South Africa), Christian Thompson (Australia), Patricia Waller (Germany), Xu Jiang & Yuan Liujun (China) and The Knitting Map Project directed by Jools Gilson (Ireland).

But alongside an acknowledgement of knitting that takes on complex topics, this presentation is also intended to challenge those who research, create and speak about knitting to reconsider if sufficient breadth of perspectives are currently welcomed into contemporary discourse about knitting.

Jessica Hemmings writes about textiles. In 2008 she co-organised with Linda Newington the first *In the Loop* conference. Publications include *In the Loop: Knitting Now* (Black Dog: 2010), *The Textile Reader* (Bloomsbury: 2012), *Warp & Weft* (Bloomsbury: 2012) and *Cultural Threads: transnational textiles today* (Bloomsbury: 2015) which was accompanied by a travelling exhibition *Migrations* (2015-2017). From 2012-2016 Jessica was Professor of Visual Culture and Head of the School of Visual Culture at the National College of Art & Design, Dublin. She moved to Sweden in 2017 and is currently Professor of Crafts & Vice-Prefekt of Research at the Academy of Design & Crafts (HDK), University of Gothenburg.



USING THE KNITTING COLLECTIONS

Knitting materials in the University of Southampton are divided between Winchester School of Art Library and Special Collections at the Hartley Library. To find out more please see the details below.

To use the collections based at Winchester School of Art Library please contact us by e-mail, telephone or in writing.

Winchester School of Art Library

Park Avenue
Winchester
SO23 8DL
Telephone: +44 (0)23 8059 6982
E-mail: wsaenqs@soton.ac.uk

To use the Special Collections based at the Hartley Library, initial appointments should be made in writing, details can be found at the Special Collections website.

Special Collections

Hartley Library
University of Southampton
Highfield
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SO17 1BJ
Telephone: +44 (0)23 8059 2721
Email: archives@soton.ac.uk

www.southampton.ac.uk/archives

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