



Be My Valentine!

Delicious Delights

Fibre fanatics will love this! Come and check out the “dreads” we’ve brought in from Nanaimo, BC. We have 250g roving ropes of sumptuous **hand-dyed Blue Faced Leicester** blended with **bleached Tussah Silk** from **Hummingbird Fibre Arts** in a variety of February-Blues-Buster colour combinations. These lovely fibre “hanks” look a bit like dreadlocks and are perfect for handspinning, felting and with the right mega-hook or giant knitting needle, could even be crocheted or knit. \$65/250g hank.



Also in the “delicious” category are two new yarns from **Skacel**: **Cashmere Queen** (45% merino, 35% cashmere, 20% silk) is a single strand ball (153yds/50g) of worsted weight goodness (20sts/10cm on 3.5-4.5mm needles) in 3 natural shades and is priced at \$21.99. Check out Skacel’s **In-Silk yarn** (75% merino, 25% silk): a single stand yarn (lightweight) with 219 yds to a 100g skein. \$25.99/ball and you can knit chunky (18sts/10cm on 5-6mm needles).



Ahhh... Venezia!

Ahhh... Venice! Or as they say in Italy, “Ahhh... Venezia!” Capture the serene elegance and unique beauty of **Cascade Venezia** when you discover this wonderful blend of 70% merino wool and 30% silk. Find enchantment in the soft texture, elegant sheen and graceful drape this yarn creates. 102yds/100g skeins, Venezia knits up at 14sts/10cm on 6-8mm needle and is priced at \$19.95/skein.

Contents

Feature Articles	
Manos Clasica	2
February Sale	2
New Spring 2010 yarns	2
February Workshops & Events	3
New Addi 8” Circulars!	3
Four Corner Hat	3
Tanis Fiber Arts	4
Knitting Looms	4
Gallery Updates	4
Feature Project	4





Manos Clasica Naturals from Uruguay

The newest wool from Manos del Uruguay! **Clasica Naturals** are offered in a pleasing palette of colors mixed with natural, undyed yarn in three shades: natural white, black and "dark black".

This newest yarn would be excellent for hats, scarves, gloves and wrist warmers, and SWEATERS! Yum! Clasica Naturals are **handspun** and yield 16sts/10cm on a 5.5mm needle. The 100 g skeins contain 125 meters of sheer knitting bliss. Regularly priced up to \$19.99... for **February**, catch our **special sale price** of \$15.99/skein.

Manos Del Uruguay was founded in 1968

by a group of women aiming to promote **social and economic development** in the rural areas of Uruguay. The aim was to produce handicrafts using traditional methods and to commercialise them for sophisticated markets.

The craftswomen are the owners of Manos Del Uruguay and have set up non-for-profit organisations for rural women, to allow them to develop their communities without the need to leave their homes. They are grouped into 17 co-operatives, which spin, dye, knit and produce finished garments for sale throughout the world.

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February Sale!

Don't miss out on this great deal... we have **Galway Highland Heathers** in 10 colourways that we're putting on sale for the month of February (or while supplies last). This is a fabulous sweater yarn, that knits up at an aran gauge (18sts/24rows over 10cm on a 4.5mm needle). Each 100g ball has 200m of 100% Peruvian highland wool. Regularly priced at \$8.99/ball, our **February special is \$5.00/bag of 10 balls (\$5.00/ball)**. Save big (44%) and have enough yarn on hand to complete an adult sweater. Two bags for an afghan!



New to us...

We have new colours coming out (and going on display) for a number of our current lines of yarn. We've received a new shipment, for example, of the popular **Cascade 220** with its fantastic palette of colours. Great for colourwork projects, sweaters, afghans and felting (check out our line of **Noni** felting patterns featuring Cascade 220 yarns). We also have more of the **Lana Grossa Gnocchi** yarn. This 100% microfiber yarn is pure fun... and 4 (50g) balls make a fabulous scarf (ask us for a copy of the free pattern with your purchase).

Brand new is **Estelle's Super Alpaca Lace** in both solid and handpainted colours. This 100% superfine alpaca yarn is soooo soft! With 400m per 50g skein, you can use it in any of your laceweight projects. And if you like lace projects, you'll also want to see the new colours of the **Ella Rae Lace Merino**. 100% merino wool in a 100g/404m skein, this fine gauge yarn is bouncy and smooth and comes in (new) solid and handpaint colours.

And from the aptly named **Sublime** yarn collection, we're bringing in the new **Bamboo & Pearls** yarn. Made from 70% bamboo and 30% pearls, it knits up at 22sts/10cm on 4mm needles and carries 95m/50g ball. The Pearl fibre in this yarn is manufactured using a viscose yarn blended with pearl powder during the spinning process. The pearl powder is from natural pearls, raised in rivers or lakes and it adds an additional smoothness and shine to the anti-aging, anti-ultraviolet properties. Bamboo & Pearls has excellent breathability and is extremely comfortable to wear.



Gnocchi Scarf



Ella Rae Lace Merino

Sublime Bamboo & Pearls

February Workshops and Events

Here is a short list of the workshops and events running at our downtown and southside stores. For details, visit our workshop page at www.rivercityyarns.com.

January 29 – March 12: **Sweater Support Workshop** (Downtown). Knit a sweater; you know you want to... Denise will help you through it.

January 31: **IYOTS** (International Year of the Scarf) Knit-a-Long (Downtown). Join Ilga Leja's club and knit a year's worth of scarves – with a little help from your friends.

February 3, 10 & 17: **Four-Corner Hat** (Southside). Make a hat with style and technique. You'll learn a lot and have a fantastic hat to boot. (See Sidebar right).

February 5 – March 19: **Gorgeous Ganseys** (Downtown). Forget the pattern... be the pattern! You can design and knit your own traditional gansey (sweater).

February 6 – 27: **Knitting 101** (both locations). Learn to knit. We can help.

February 7: **Knitting Circle** (both locations). Beginners most welcome.

February 10 – 17: **Beginner Crochet** (Southside). Get hooked!

February 13, 20 & 27: **Everything About Socks** (Downtown). Our most popular class!

February 14 & 21: Elizabeth Zimmerman's **Baby Surprise Sweater** (Downtown). Called "knitter's origami"; you'll be amazed at this one-piece sweater.

February 18 & 25: **Thrummed Mittens** (Downtown). Make cozy, fleece-lined mittens.

February 20: **Baa-Baa Bangles** (wet felting) with Donna James (Southside). No knitting/crochet/prerequisites! Wet felt beads to make fabulous bracelets.

February 21: **Intermediate Knitting Techniques** (Southside). Try out some incredible increases!

February 24: **Workshop Amnesty** (Southside). Free your UFO's! Must have registered for a RCY workshop.

February 28: **Baa-Baa Bangles** (wet felting) with Donna James (Downtown)

February 28: **IYOTS** (International Year of the Scarf) Knit-a-Long (Southside)

March 4 - 25: **Knitting 101 Evening Class** (Downtown)

March 6: **Freeform Knit and Crochet** (Southside). Go freeform and liberate yourself from patterns. You'll make a one-of-a-kind handbag and learn new skills.

Like knitting socks and mittens? Tired of double pointed needles? Try out the new **Addi "sock" circular needle**. Only 20cm (8") in length, you'll finally be able to knit socks/mitts on one circular needle. Available in **metric sizes 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.25, 3.5, & 3.75** at \$19.99/each. We're taking orders: call (780) 477-9276 to place yours.



The Four Corner Hat

Make this adorable and completely unique hat for a little one in your life. You can keep it simple by using solid colours or by striping colours. Or you can take on the challenge of the "advanced" model and learn to change colours across the row (known as the Fair Isle style of knitting). You will learn how to pick up and knit along the edge of your work, how to graft garter stitch stitches, carry two colours across a row and embellish your finished hat.

Instructor, Brenda Chipman, has made several of these adorable hats and we've seen a few of the completed adult versions from previous classes as well. You'll learn a lot and end up with a beautiful hat for you or someone equally special in your life.

Next workshop: 3 Wednesdays (Feb 3, 10 & 17) from 6:30-8:00PM at our southside location. Registration: \$50.00 (plus materials).

Materials Required: 100g of a sport weight or light dk yarn, 3.75mm double pointed needles and a 3.75 (40cm/16inch) circular needle, a crochet hook (size F) and the "Four Corners Hat" pattern by Maureen Mason-Jamieson.

River City Yarns

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Email: south@riverscityyarns.com

... your place to unwind!

Find us on the Web:
www.riverscityyarns.com

River City Yarns
a place to unwind

Tanis Fiber Arts Temptations

Tanis Fiber Arts is a Canadian company specializing in hand-dyed yarns. Now, Tanis has been producing kits and we're bringing in two to tempt you: the **Baby Shane Blanket** and **Fiddlehead Mittens**. Baby Shane is knit in one piece (34" square) with one seam to sew at the end. The Fiddlehead Mittens are designed by Hello Yarns with colour combinations by Tanis. Kits include hand-dyed yarn and pattern.



Knitting Looms

Want to have a little fun? We're bringing in some knitting looms for those of you who want to knit in the round on a portable "loom". No knitting skills required! Try one out with some eyelash yarn for a fun, furry, knit-in-the-round scarf. Available in sets of round or long looms. Long looms can be used additionally for double knitting. Perfect for scarves, shawls, hats, socks and more.



Gallery Updates



We love to keep up with your projects through our online gallery. See more pictures and get more details online by visiting us at www.riverscityyarns.com/gallery.html. And, send us updates (please include a photo) via email (see above for addresses). Thanks!

Jim W. came into RCY before Christmas, bought a big stock of Bulky Lopi yarn and sent it to his mom, Bonnie. **Bonnie** knit up these two "Canadian Buffalo Yarn" inspired designs using the charts from the pattern she had on hand and recalculating the gauge for the finer gauge. The brown sweater (pictured right) was knit in 2.5 days to

be done in time for Christmas! Jim told us he loves his sweater: "Pretty hard to not want to wear it every day actually. I've only told my mom I love it about 10 times already. She hasn't got tired of hearing it yet." We're not surprised... Jim, you're a very lucky guy! Bulky Lopi, although bulky, is still thinner than the old (no longer in production) Canadian Buffalo yarn. It makes a lighter weight sweater with slightly more dramatic patterning as you can achieve more stitches to the inch (more detail in pattern).



Want to try something fun? How about the **Burberry Inspired Cowl Neck Scarf**? We first heard about it from Anastasia when she wore her version into the store. It's currently one of the "most active recently published designs" on Ravelry. Designer, Julianne Smith (aka Garter Girl), was inspired by an ad in InStyle magazine for a Burberry cowl neck scarf in wool and silk (retail price: \$750 USD). Not only was the price too high, Julianne had difficulty finding the scarf in stock in any of the Burberry stores, so she decided to come up with her own. Knit out of something soft and chunky (Rowan Cocoon, Mirasol Sulka, Phildar Partner, Drops Eskimo, for example) this design will keep you warm and fashionable all winter long. The pattern is available through Ravelry (just search for "burberry") or on Julianne's blog: <http://julianneasmith.wordpress.com/2009/12/04/free-knitting-pattern-burberry-inspired-cowl-neck-scarf>.