



March 23-25, 2012

SPRING WORKSHOPS WITH MERIKE SAARNIT

MERIKE SAARNIIT

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I started knitting, crocheting, sewing, etc as a child.

My Barbie dolls had quite the interesting wardrobes.

Parents came from Estonia and I was raised Estonian-American (I hold dual citizenship - US and Estonia.)

I teach workshops in spinning, knitting, weaving, dyeing.

You can find me at Stitches events (East, West, MidWest, Camps), at John C Campbell Folkschool (www.folkschool.org), and privately sponsored workshops.





The following slides are snippets of posts by various bloggers who have taken classes with Merike Saarniit

**WORKSHOP:
FIENDISHLY
DIFFICULT
STITCHES**

[http://jolieaelder.blogspot.com/
2011/05/finished-objects-from-stitches-south.html](http://jolieaelder.blogspot.com/2011/05/finished-objects-from-stitches-south.html)

STITCHES South 2011

Friday morning I took "Fiendishly Difficult Stitches" with Merike Saarniit.

From the bottom up the patterns are:

Alsacian Scallop border,

Estonian Embrace Cable,

Estonian Butterfly on Open Ground,

And Berry Kisses.



<http://www.blue-room.com/onetruith/archive/2010/02/in-stitches.html>

Stitches West, in Santa Clara.

"Fiendishly Difficult Stitches" With
Merike Saarniit.

It was tons of fun.

We did four different Estonian stitches.

I recommend the class to any advanced knitter who is
looking to try something challenging for a change.



WORKSHOP:
3-2-1
ROUNDAABOUT

[http://summit yarnstudio.wordpress.com/
2011/01/23/saturday-at-vogue-knitting-live-2011/](http://summit yarnstudio.wordpress.com/2011/01/23/saturday-at-vogue-knitting-live-2011/)

I so enjoyed the six hour class with Merike Saarniit ...I got the last seat in her class this morning.

I am SO GLAD I did, she is an excellent instructor. I was able to learn all the featured techniques and several extras!

Today we learned Faux Entrelac, an Embrace Stitch (looks like cable but it is not).

I even tried a different sort of two-color long-tail cast on.



Two-Color Net Stitch



Faux Entrelac Cuff

<http://woollydaze.wordpress.com/2010/08/03/knitting-directions/>

Class was enjoyable and enlivened by Merike's anecdotes about differences between teaching American and British knitters and occasional 'ooohs' from our fellow knitters as seemingly complex maneuvers came together to produce something that approximated the picture that illustrated our worksheet.



This wristwarmer was the product of my labors, showcasing four Estonian knitting stitches in two colors (I'm exceedingly pleased with the brioche stitch variants in particular and am daydreaming about how they might look in hand-dyed yarns).

**WORKSHOP:
ELONGATED
STITCHES**

[http://dianemulholland.com/
blog/?p=742](http://dianemulholland.com/blog/?p=742)

I took two classes with Merike Saarniit at Vogue - one on Nupps, Buds and Bobbles, and one on Elongated Stitches.

I'd heard good things about Merike after Knit Nation and I was really looking forward to these two.

Merike is going to be at Knit Nation again this year and I thoroughly recommend you sign up for something with her if you didn't get a chance to last year!



http://ourknitalong.blogspot.com/2010_04_01_archive.html

I took Elongated Stitch Enchantment with Merike Saarniit.

She's coming out with a book soon...we all need to get copies of it. It's going to be ubercool.

Elongated stitches: you wrap the yarn around the needle more than one time and then do something with the longer stitch.

These crazy things can be done with one or two or more colors of yarn - the blue and purple thing is the sampler we made in class.





WORKSHOP: PATENT STITCHES

<http://tt820.blogspot.com/2009/09/kdo-2009.html>

Patent stitches are a group of Estonian stitches that use a lot of yarn (the patent stitch is composed of a pair of loops over the needle) and which create a really squishy fabric.

Often, garments made from patent stitching were fulled, which made them warmer (Estonia is a very cold place).

I was much more enamored of patent stitches than I expected to be. They are enticingly squishy, and many of them require no purling, even though they look like ribbing.



<http://summit yarnstudio.wordpress.com/2011/01/22/merike-saarniit-and-vogue-knitting-live/>

I took “Patent Stitches — The Estonian Approach” with Merike Saarniit and I loved every single minute of this class.

...this stitch...translates “special stitch” and means “paired stitch” (a stitch paired with a yarnover ON THAT STITCH).

The syllabus was well-written and the directions were clear and easy to follow.

Merike was more than adept at the multitasking necessary to keep a class of 14 students moving forward together.

