

## SHORT COURSE DETAILS

2D6735 SWEDISH CROCHET NÅLBINDNING AND SMYGMASK VIRKNING

Tutor: LUCINDA GUY

Dates: 2 DAYS SUNDAY 12 FEBRUARY – TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY

### ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

Learn ancient Scandinavian crochet techniques for creating woollen textiles using a single hook and pure Swedish wool yarns.

During the course you will explore the history and construction of ancient, traditional Swedish mittens and socks. We will concentrate on the recently discovered Swedish Crochet Nålbinding technique – this is a form of Nålbinding that is equally ancient but rather than using a single needle, uses a single hook. In the last few years the Nordic Museum in Stockholm has acknowledged Crochet Nålbinding as a 'new' discovery and an authentic technique. It is easier and quicker to work than Nålbinding with a single needle and, with a basic understanding of crochet, is easily learnt – this really is an exciting opportunity to learn a 'new' technique that is little known (if at all), outside of Sweden.

You will also have the opportunity to learn all about Smygmask Virkning (also known as Shepherds or Tapestry Crochet), using a special flat and wide crochet hook called a sked krok. This is an equally ancient slip stitch crochet technique used to give a distinctively firm, colourful and decorative edging for traditional mittens, socks and sweaters.

This course would be ideal for anyone who has either taken a related course or has some existing skills as you will need to be able to crochet confidently and ideally be able to crochet in the round.

Once you have completed the course you will understand how to plan, crochet and decorate your own traditional mittens.

If you are interested in learning the basics of Swedish Nålbinding (as opposed to Crochet Nålbinding), a two-day course follows this one on the 14 February.

### LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE

Skills development. For those who have taken a related course or have some existing skills. The focus is on further developing and building of skills working towards independent practice.

### ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Lucinda is a knitwear designer-maker and author of nine knitting and crochet books. She studied constructed textiles and is currently specialising in traditional Northern, Scandinavian and Baltic hand knitting, knotting, nålbinding and crochet techniques. She regularly travels to Scandinavia researching these techniques and has taught workshops in the US and UK.

### TIMETABLE:

#### Arrival day: Sunday 12 February

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| From 4.00pm     | Arrival for residential students   |
| 6.45pm          | Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner   |
| 7.00pm          | Dinner   |
| 8.00pm – 9.00pm | First teaching session – <b>attendance is an essential part of the course.</b> |

### **Other days: Monday 13 February**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 9.15am      | Morning classes start   |
| 10.30am     | Coffee  |
| 11.00am     | Morning classes continue  |
| 12.45pm     | Lunch   |
| 2.00pm      | Afternoon classes   |
| 3.30pm      | Tea   |
| 4.00pm      | Afternoon classes continue  |
| 5.00pm      | Classes finish  |
| From 6.30pm | Dinner  |
| 8.00pm      | Evening working – workshops are available up to 10pm for those wishing to work on providing this has been discussed with the tutor. These sessions are untutored. |

### **Departure day: Tuesday 14 February**

(Residential students to vacate rooms by 10am)

|         |                          |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 9.15am  | Morning classes start    |
| 10.30am | Coffee                   |
| 11.00am | Morning classes continue |
| 12.45pm | Lunch                    |
| 2.00pm  | Afternoon classes        |
| 3.00pm  | Classes finish           |
| 3.30pm  | Tea then departure       |

### **REQUIRED PREPARATION:**

Students will need to be able to crochet confidently and ideally be able to crochet in the round.

### **MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:**

We have a generously stocked craft shop, which opens daily from 8.30am–2pm.

### **Additional Charge:**

I would estimate that this additional charge for materials (which would include one 'sked krok' and could include one or more crochet hooks and a variety of pure wool yarn and darning needles), could be between £20.00 and £25.00 or more (depending on how much each individual student needs and uses). This charge should be paid to the tutor before the end of the course, by cash or cheque.

### **Available from the tutor:**

On this course the tutor will supply all of the yarn and specialist 'sked kroks', and will have a small selection of conventional crochet hooks and darning needles available to buy.

### **Please bring any of the above, if you have them, and in addition:**

Please can you bring a good range of crochet hooks.

We will be using a light DK/sport weight pure wool yarn for the crochet nálbinding, and for this I would recommend anything from a 2.5mm to a 3.5/4mm hook (depending on your usual tension).

We will use the same yarn for the smygmask virkning, but typically this technique must be worked loosely and uses at least one, if not 2 (or more!), hook sizes larger than you would normally use, so please do bring a range of hooks to accommodate for this.

You will be given a wooden sked krok to work with, but it would be really useful to have a good range of hooks at hand as an alternative.

Darning or tapestry needles, sharp scissors, pen, pencil and note book.

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY:**

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. There are no health and safety restrictions on access to this studio/teaching space in the absence of the tutor. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.