



Contact: Jaime Guthals
(502) 243-6834
Cell: (502) 387-2383
JaimeG@interweave.com

Publication: September 2009

Inca Knits: Designs Inspired by South American Folk Traditions Marianne Isager

"A fixture in Denmark's knitting scene for more than 30 years, Marianne Isager is finally—and fittingly—entering the U.S. market. She dipped her toes in our waters a few years ago when Interweave Press published the English translation of her book, Knitting Out of Africa. But that book represents a mere fraction of her creative output. . . . Marianne Isager's designs tend to employ clean, fine geometric motifs using simple knit and purl stitch variations and lots of color. . . . Like pointillist paintings, Isager's designs rely on the detail you can only get at a fine gauge."

--Clara Parkes, Knitter's Review

Loveland, Colo.: Incorporating the vibrant style of ancient Incan knitting with a nod to contemporary trends, *Inca Knits* (Interweave, \$24.95) is a collection of knitwear designs featuring garments that bring the vibrant and geometric motifs of the South American tradition to the 21st century.

Inca Knits is the newest book in the Marianne Isager Collection, following the North American debut of *Classic Knits* and *Japanese-Inspired Knits* earlier this year. In *Inca Knits*, knitters will find 25 South American inspired knit designs in Isager's signature style. Many of the book's patterns were originally published in Danish in 1996 as "*INKA: Strik Med Latinamerikansk Inspiration*" and are available now in English for the first time through this new publication, which features all-new-photography and several new designs.

The knitter-friendly patterns in *Inca Knits* do not require extensive knitting experience. By innovatively combining knit-and-purl techniques in lightweight yarns, the stunning colors, stripes, and zigzags of South American patterns are complemented by subtle textures. All the featured projects are suitable for any intermediate knitter, with instructions and charts for each pattern as well as a glossary to clarify various knitting techniques. Knitters will learn new and innovative uses of color and patterns, and how to combine lightweight yarns together to create new textures and colors

Marianne Isager's name is synonymous with modern Danish design, and *Inca Knits* is no exception. Every project has a striking feature, be it an interesting combination of yarns, a clever use of stitch pattern, or an unusual form of construction. The photos alone are a lesson in inspired sweater design.

Beyond its instructional role, this guide also directs knitters to find inspiration for their own designs by examining the landscape, wildlife, and pottery of the high Andes.

INCA KNITS: DESIGNS INSPIRED BY SOUTH AMERICAN FOLK TRADITIONS
Marianne Isager

Interweave • September 2009 • \$24.95

8 ½ x 9 • paperback • 160 pages • 60 photographs, 50 illustrations, 30 charts

ISBN 978-1-59668-116-3

Distributed to the book trade by Independent Publishers Group



About the author: Marianne Isager is the author of *Inca Knits*, *Classic Knits*, *Japanese-Inspired Knits*, and *Knitting out of Africa* (all published by Interweave). She was born in Denmark and grew up in northern Jutland among the windswept moors that overlook the North Sea. She graduated from Denmark's Design School in Copenhagen and over the years she has taught at design and crafts schools all over Denmark and in the United States, including knitting classes at the Nordic Heritage Museum in Seattle. Marianne loves teaching and has taught knitters around the world, from sheep-farmer women in southern Greenland to a women's group in Kathmandu to the knitting men of Taquile Island in Lake Titicaca, Peru.

Marianne has compiled her many journeys and teaching into her knitting books, and she says several more are in the pipeline. The designs in her books primarily stem from the different textiles and ceramics of the countries she has visited, but her ideas also flow from nature, everyday objects or even films and fairy tales.

Despite these eclectic influences, her patterns still bear the hallmark of the simple Scandinavian style.

Marianne divides her time between Denmark and Japan, but in the summer she is always in her shop and workshop in Tannisby, Denmark. Last year she was host to a special weekend retreat in the United States, *Knitting in Santa Fe with Marianne Isager*—held in March 2009 to great success. Participants spent six days at The Inn on the Alameda with Marianne. There were three days of classes, each geared toward a specific technique. This event will be offered again in 2010 and details will be posted to Marianne's websites.

Learn more about Marianne and her signature yarn line, Isager Yarns (distributed in the U.S. by Tutto Opal-Isager) at: <http://www.isagerknit.com> and <http://www.knitisager.com>

About Interweave

Interweave, a unit of Aspire Media, is one of the nation's largest and most respected arts and craft media companies, with businesses in magazine and book publishing, online media, television and video programming, directories, and events. The Interweave Publishing Group features 18 subscription magazines and many more special interest newsstand publications sold on newsstands nationwide. Interweave has more than 250 books in print and annually publishes about 40 how-to books on the same subjects as the company's magazines. Additionally, Interweave produces several major events for fiber and bead, gem, and jewelry making enthusiasts and has an extensive Internet network of more than 30 websites and daily e-mail newsletters. Interweave is the proud sponsor of three craft television series airing on PBS: *Quilting Arts TV*, a fresh, contemporary quilting program, *Beads, Baubles, & Jewels*, public television's only how-to program for beading and jewelry making enthusiasts, and public television's newest show for knitting and crochet enthusiasts, *Knitting Daily TV*.

Linda Ligon founded the company in the 1970s when she began publishing *Handwoven* and *Spin-Off* magazines. Since then, the company has grown to employ more than 100 people throughout the country, with corporate headquarters located in Loveland, Colorado and other offices in New York, New York; Malvern, Pennsylvania; Santa Fe, New Mexico; San Diego, California; and Stow, Massachusetts. For more information on Interweave, visit www.interweave.com or call (970) 669-7672.

###