

# CET REPORTER

**FIT** Fashion Institute of Technology  
Center for Excellence in Teaching  
The Office of Academic Affairs

*Center for Excellence in Teaching and the Teaching Institute*

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Elaine Maldonado

## International Knitwear Trends: Pitti Filati *LOVE...From Italy*

By Asta Skocir

In July 2013, I attended Pitti Filati, the most important yard trade show in the world, which occurs twice a year at the Fortezza de Basso in Florence, Italy. Pitti Filati is held in close proximity to Italy's renowned yarn producing area, Prato. The July Pitti is when Fall 2014-15 yarns are presented.

Every season, there is a new theme developed for the show and the yarns are displayed in knitted garment



form in the **KNITWEAR RESEARCH AREA**. The F/W 14-15 theme was "Love", referring to any type of affection and passion but also, a knitwear designer's love of materials. Two of the strongest and most preva-

lent themes were **Love of Animals**, and everything associated with animals such as fur surface effects and **Love of Nature**, which was shown in an earthy palette of greens and browns, emulating flora & fauna.

### Pitti Filati Color Forecast

The color forecast ranged from a warm palette of soft orange and berry tones to a cool palette that focused on stormy blues, turqs and seafoams, peppered with deeper tones of navy and pine. The whitened palette of winter pastels and neutrals rounded out the color range. All the colors were white-washed, softening their appearance and giving them a feeling of being "seasonless." Some of the more import color themes were:

**Shades of Red:** From ruby to soft burgundy mixed with shades of warm orange and nude. There was a lot of red at the show, with "nude" still trending. The newest looking colors were whitened, softened shades of red that looked weathered and worn.

**Shades of Green:** Forest greens to earthy shades of olive, complemented by mossy & leafy greens to brighter shades of seafoam and turquoise. This color story goes back to the, "love of nature" theme and an ecological push from the yarn mills.

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## SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching



By Elaine Maldonado

FIT will participate in the new SUNY Chancellor's Award program for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching. The call for nominations begins with the 2014 Spring Convocation. The last day to submit a nomination is February 24, 2014. Nominees must possess a CCE, in addition to meeting other program criteria. Please refer to the SUNY web site for full eligibility details at [http://www.suny.edu/provost/academic\\_affairs/AdjunctTeachPoll315.cfm](http://www.suny.edu/provost/academic_affairs/AdjunctTeachPoll315.cfm). Should you have additional questions, please contact the CET at 7-4064 or contact me directly at 7-4062.

This new program will give the college community the opportunity to both acknowledge and celebrate the truly excellent teachers who serve FIT's students in a part-time

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**Pitti Filati from Page 1**

**Shades of Blue:** Saturated oceanic tones to tranquil shades of cloudy blue to steel grey.



**Neutrals:** Warm yellowed-casted neutrals tinted with brown, pink and mauve

**Macaroon Colors:** Candied bights softened to shades of winter pastels.

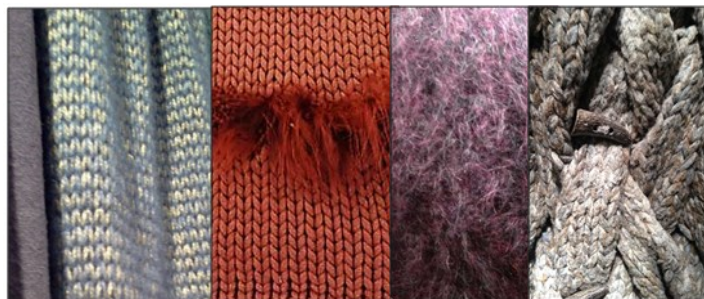
**Sparkle & Rustic Metallics:** Metallics are subtly incorporated into fibers & yarns during the spinning or knitting process; newness stemming from softly colored and bronze metallics. Shine & hair or shine & matt are juxtaposed to create tweed effects using metallic printing or foil printing which was one of the newest approaches to shine.

**High Pile, Eye Lash Yarns & Fur Effects (mixed with flat yarns):** High-pile "animal surface" effects using eyelash yarns, high-pile and hairy yarns, contrasted against flat yarns.

**Hair:** Mohair, mohair blends, fluffy angora emulating animal hair to enhance a tactile appearance.

**Blurred Effects, Brushed & Furry:** Ombré, Tie-Dye, Brushed Space-Dye with peach finishes, creating a blurred painted effect. Painted yarns are introduced into jacquards and stripes to further create surface dimension.

**Boiled, Felted & Brushed Yarns:** Boiled, brushed or felted to achieve worn, tactile yarn effects.



## Knit Trends

**Bonding:** One of the newest and most predominant trends at Pitti Filati was bonded surface treatments. Fabrics merged craft and technology; all-over bonding replaced sewing. The Bond in America display was a capsule collection of fully fashioned and cut & sew knits created by a designer named Edward Buchanan who portrayed his futuristic view of American sportswear

**Tartans, Checks & Plaids:** Heritage trend.

**Tapestry, Baroque Scrolls & Foulard Jacquards:** Shown in deep, rich colors but looked newest when shown in off-beat color ways. There was also a strong presence of Baroque patterning at retail as well.

**Animal Jacquards:** In all forms and knitting techniques. **Animal Textures:** Pile yarns and knitting techniques were utilized to achieve hairy/furry effects.

**Washed, Worn, Soiled & Distressed (refined rustic look):** Dirty laundry finishes and blackened tar coatings were a strong message at the show, with over-prints adding a slightly grungy or deconstructed appeal to knits

**Ecological looks:** Undyed fiber yarns- Alpaca, yak, mohair and cashmere were presented in a range of raw natural shades; from raw white to all shades of brown and grey mélange for a refined rustic and ecological look.

To see more trend images from my trip, please check my Pitti Filati Blog posts:

<http://knitgrandeur.blogspot.com/2013/09/pitti-filati-fw-1415-research-forum.html>

<http://knitgrandeur.blogspot.com/2013/07/pitti-filati-fw-1415-florence-italy.html>

<http://knitgrandeur.blogspot.com/2013/07/pitti-filati-florence.html>

<http://knitgrandeur.blogspot.com/2013/07/luis-via-roma-florence.html>

<http://knitgrandeur.blogspot.com/2013/07/store-window-luisa-via-roma-florence.html>

<http://knitgrandeur.blogspot.com/2013/07/pitti-filati-sweater-girls.html>



**Adjunct Teaching from Page 1**

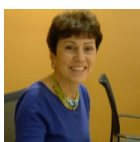
capacity. Data has repeatedly shown that when adjunct faculty feel connected to, and supported by their institutions, students succeed. I applaud SUNY for launching a program that will recognize the critical work of adjunct colleagues and, in doing so, clearly enrich the teaching and learning experience system-wide.

## Artists' and Writers' Residencies and Industry Practicums

On November 12, 2013, the CET and Grants Office co-sponsored a roundtable event focusing on residencies and industry practicums. Chloe Chapin, Fashion Design, spoke about previous residencies, and her upcoming scholarly research on the study of historical menswear in Scandinavia. Chloe will be in Stockholm, Sweden on a Fulbright Grant during Spring 2014. Jean Jacullo, FMM, shared her practicum experience while working during her winter break with two



Chloe Chapin



Jean Jacullo

major retailers. Staying active in industry, gives her the opportunity to learn things she "could never learn by reading articles and books about these topics. Johannes Knoops, Interior Design, spoke about his experience with the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) summer program. He also spoke about being the recipient of the Rome Prize Fellowship where he had the opportunity to expand his skills and knowledge. Rounding out the event,



Johannes Knoops



Mark Goldblatt

Mark Goldblatt, Educational Skills, talked about his experience as a faculty visitor at the Savannah College of Art and Design in Atlantic, Georgia.

For more information on opportunities, contact Elaine Maldonado, X7-4062



*Sultan Catto is an adjunct in the FIT Science and Mathematics Department. He also teaches physics at the CUNY Graduate School. Both a physicist and a poet, Sultan's poetry books have been published in many languages.*

**Must, Must**

Sky begins to fill in with the evening's stars  
 a song rises from the sea with a gentle breeze,  
 with wings of wax a love bird roams over this poem  
 to bid you adieu instead of me.

Like a snow that keeps a mountain in a blanket  
 and melts in summer time to give it life,  
 I'll keep you within, watering you, wild flower  
 gently wetting your cheeks, your soul and your mind.

I'll disappear from these shores without a trace  
 like a summer stork being exiled to the South,  
 like a mole digging tunnels into earth,  
 be no longer there when you return.

Melted into my dreams you have wounded me,  
 melancholic charm, my wandering dervish,  
 you have disappeared among Southern lights  
 leaving your reflections in soul's wandering waters.

Remember my words; I used to say,  
 "I must steal you from the night, I must, I must,"  
 now I beg the night to tear me off from you and say,  
 "Steal me from her, night, you must, you must."

ECHO/回聲

By Sultan Catto,  
 Translated by Steve Zhang

**Angel to BlackBoard—Jeffrey Riman**

While we all know that FIT will be transitioning from ANGEL to Blackboard, it is important to keep in mind that this transition will be gradual and designed to be as painless as possible. Those that teach online will be among the first to migrate. If you currently use ANGEL simply to share files and communications, the transition will be especially easy. Until we move to Blackboard it is important to continue using ANGEL and please encourage new faculty to do so as well.

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### **Professor Renee Cooper Recounts her Experience as a Fulbright Scholar in Denmark.**

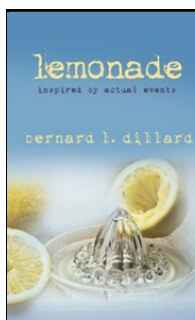
My award letter from the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board stated, *"As a representative of your country in Denmark, you will help fulfill the principal purpose of the Fulbright Program, which is to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of the more than 150 countries that currently participate in the Fulbright program."* March 15, 2012

Three days after my arrival in Denmark, I attended a faculty department meeting. The first part of these meetings was conducted in Danish so I was invited to attend the second part of the meeting which focused on the KEA International programs and therefore was conducted in English. The room was full of teachers. It was set-up in the 'u' formation like many FIT meetings. I felt like it was my interview to become a full time FMM faculty member! I was asked to introduce myself and explain my purpose at KEA and a little of my background. It was at this moment that I realized how far away from home I was and that I would be repeating this introduction process many times over the next two months. Following the meeting, the hectic pace began. Faculty from the Sourcing department immediately came up to me and asked if I could find time to give a presentation to both International and Danish students. They were so excited that I was "speaking their language" since I used industry terminology. I was assigned to the Design and Marketing team of KEA. I was shown my space in the open setting of offices. I was given shelf space, my KEA login to the intranet and later my password to print documents. I was set to begin teaching!

On March 6, I will share my experience in greater detail at a CET event. I hope you will join me then!

### **Blackboard from Page 3**

Your Angel skills will transfer quite nicely to Blackboard. ANGEL will continue to be available throughout the entire process. There will be clear and concise communication available from the Office of Online Learning/Academic Technologies, and the CET as we begin the process.



### **Making Lemonade out of Lemons**

Bernard Dillard, assistant professor in FIT's Science and Mathematics Department, recently won the 2013 Global eBook award in the Autobiography/Memoir category for his newly published book, *Lemonade: Inspired by*

*Actual Events*. From the gut wrenching first chapter, *Still Okay*, until the last chapter, *Still Laughing*, Bernard takes us through his life journey with all its struggles and triumphs. With deep faith and conviction, Bernard successfully maneuvers his way through a challenging childhood and manages to take the hardships that life has handed him, and well, you guessed it, makes lemonade out of lemons!

Dillard has also written other books, and has conducted seminars for young adults on financial literacy and overcoming difficulties. However, his talents do not end with teaching, writing and workshops. He has acted in television, film and stage shows, and has a modeling career. Truly a man for all seasons, we hope you get a chance to read Bernard's latest book, *Lemonade: Inspired By Actual Events*.

**"Education is the most  
powerful weapon  
which you can use to  
change the world."**

