



Tea Talk: Why do you sew?

Description

This week we would like to find out why you sew.' Is it your business? For pleasure? Out of necessity? To carry on a tradition your mum or grandmother passed on? What makes this craft special to you?

Each one of us has a story to tell that is to do with a history or a dream. It is sometimes valuable to hear these stories, to be encouraged, to feel community support with whom you can share your joys and sorrows, worries and questions.

Sewing has always been a dream skill for me. When I was a little girl, in 1980s USSR, many women sewed and knitted not just out of pleasure but a lot of the times, out of necessity to put something nice on themselves and their families. Nice fabrics were scarce and yet the pockets weren't always full of coins to afford new garments. The traditions of crafts were part of our lives, just like making jams and knowing how to grow your own potatoes. I watched one of my grandmothers sew quilts, and remember thinking to myself I will never master the art of threading a machine. I never did learn from my grandmothers as we left Russia when I was 10 and yet another sort of teaching platform was to evolve which continues to guide me- namely the Internet and many men and women who make up the fabric of knowledge freely available to us! Priceless.

Years later, an opportunity arose, my father was long in business of selling linen and he suggested I learned how to sew in order to help with this blog. I had a batch of linens from years back, carefully stored for a festive time like right now. I was really ready to learn, a friend lent me her machine which stood around for a year under a layer of dust and then everything came together and here we are. I am an illustrator by profession and have been drawing and painting for years, and yet sewing has been a missing puzzle all along. It makes me really happy. Now I have a new dream: to focus on creating a textile collection for my own home wear brand, and to continue working within ' fashion, furniture, books, events and exhibitions. What's your story?

CATEGORY

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