

Shetland Muse

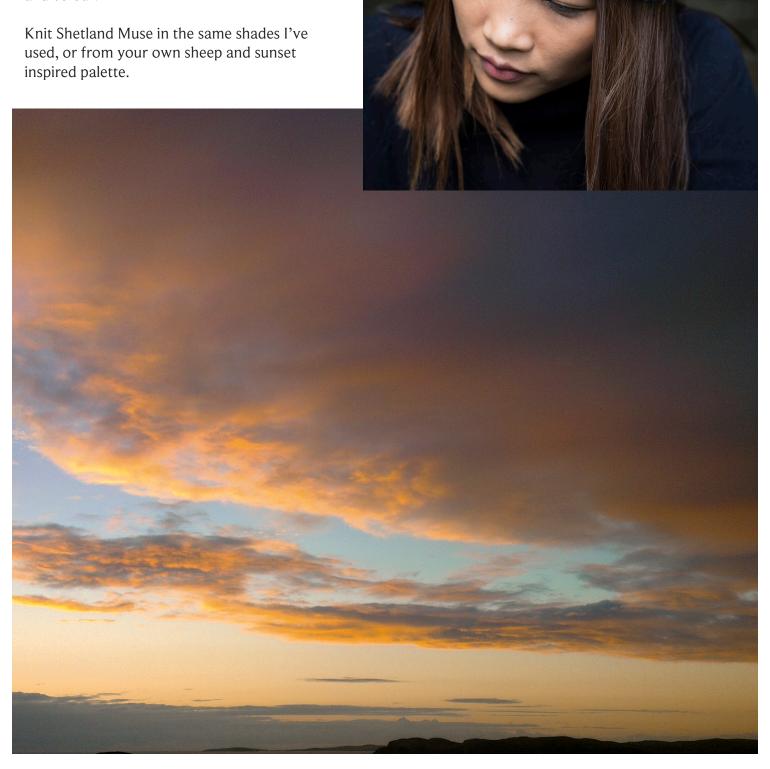
a stranded colourwork hat by Felicity (Felix) Ford inspired by a poem by Raman Mundair originally published in the Shetland Wool Week Annual, 2019

SHETLAND MUSE

This colourwork hat takes its palette and imagery from a poem of the same name by Raman Mundair.

Shetland Muse — as its title suggests — speaks to the charismatic lure of Shetland as a place; to the many ways that these islands inspire with their textures, weather and light.

As someone who has also fallen under the spell of Shetland, I couldn't resist translating Raman's words into the language of stitches and colour.



Shetland Muse

Outside dark molasses absorbs the last juice from a misshapen tangerine and pours thick across the vale. The wind furious at being ignored whips the ocean to a roar.

Soon, the gloaming begins and something in my lower back stirs and, later, something lying beneath my skin moves and my hand casts spells that appear garbled on the page.

Throughout the night, the moon, just out of reach, plays with the sheep hide and seek — their bustle torsos a strange comfort in a landscape void of trees. While most sleep, my ink luminous marks magic true.

Raman Mundair

Raman Mundair is an Indian-born director, writer, artist, activist, filmmaker and playwright. She identifies as a disabled, Queer, British Asian intersectional feminist and is based in Shetland and Glasgow.

Raman is the award-winning author of Lovers, Liars, Conjurers and Thieves, A Choreographer's Cartography, The Algebra of Freedom (a play) and the editor of Incoming: Some Shetland Voices.

Shetland Muse is from A Choreographer's Cartography, published by Peepal Tree Press in 2007.

The poem is ©Raman Mundair and used here with kind permission. Thank You, Raman.

Read more about Raman Mundair's amazing, intersectional work and creative practice on her website:

https://rmundair.wixsite.com/website



Materials & Notes

CONSTRUCTION NOTES

Shetland Muse is knitted from brim to crown in the round and begins with a provisional cast on. A lining for the headband is knit first, followed by a headband worked in decorative corrugated ribbing. The lining and headband are joined together; then the stitch count is increased and the main body of the hat is then knit from the bottom up, following the colourwork chart. Centred double decreases shape the crown.

ONE SIZE

To fit head circumference: 56-60cm / 22-23¾in. Hat circumference (measured around brim, unstretched): 63.5cm / 26½in.

Height from brim to crown: 21.5cm / 8½in. Depending on your preference, this hat can be stretched and blocked over a balloon to make a slouchy shape; blocked gently for a neatly-fitting beanie; or stretched over a plate to make a tam.

GAUGE & NEEDLES

27 sts and 35 rounds to 10cm / 4in. over colourwork, after blocking. Please check your tension carefully and adjust needle size accordingly. Sample knit with 2.25mm (UK13/US1) needle(s). Use your preferred needle(s) and method for working small-circumference projects in the round.

NOTIONS

Gauge-size needle(s) of preferred type for working small-circumference projects in the round.
Gauge-size crochet hook for provisional cast-on.
Tapestry needle for weaving in ends.
Balloon or similar roundish form over which to block finished hat (or alarge dinner plate, if making a tam).

(Optional) dpns for working crown decreases. (Optional) length of smooth, fingering-weight for temporarily drawing brim in while blocking. (Optional) stitch marker to mark begining of each round.

YARN

Jamieson & Smith 2ply Jumper Weight

(4ply weight / fingering; 100% Real Shetland Wool; 115m / 125yards; 25g balls).

Yarn A: 80	(Deep Brown); 1 x 25g ball
Yarn B: 36	(Indigo); 1 x 25g ball
Yarn C: 21	(Navy); 1 x 25g ball
Yarn D: FC37	(Bluebell); 1 x 25g ball
Yarn E: FC38	(Copper); 1 x 25g ball
Yarn F: FC7	(Coral); 1 x 25g ball
Yarn G: 90	(Goldenrod); 1 x 25g ball
Yarn H: 53	(Peach); 1 x 25g ball



ABBREVIATIONS

CDD centred double decrease; using shade indicated, slip 2 sts together as if to k2tog; k1, pass 2 slipped sts over

CO cast onk knit

k2tog decrease by knitting two sts together

p purlst(s) stitch(es)WS wrong side

NOTE ON "ROUNDS" AND "ROWS"

Please note that in all directions **round** refers to the round of your knitting and **row** refers to the row indicated in your chart. Read all chart rows from right to left.

Instructions

1. CAST ON HAT & WORK BRIM LINING

Using smooth waste yarn and crochet hook, crochet a chain approximately 130 chains long, then use your knitting needle and yarn F to pick up and knit 124 sts through the 'bumps' on the back of the crochet chain. Place marker and join sts on knitting needle to work in the round, being careful not to twist your work.

Rounds 1-15: K to end.

Change to yarn C.

Round 16: K to end.

Round 17: P to end.

2. WORK CORRUGATED RIBBING

Begin working from row 1 of chart A, working the 4 stitch repeat 31 times across the round.

Continue working from chart A, changing colours where indicated, until all 15 rows are complete.

3. JOIN LINING TO BRIM

Using tapestry needle, weave in all ends on the back of your work.

Unzip provisional cast on and place the live sts revealed onto a second set of needles. Fold lining to inside of corrugated ribbing along round of purl sts, so the WS of both lining and ribbing are facing each other.

Place needles parallel to one another (needle with working yarn in yarn C will be at the front; needle holding lining yarn will be at the back).

Using yarn C, knit one round, knitting each ribbing stitch on the front needle together with its corresponding lining stitch on the back needle.

4. WORK MAIN BODY OF HAT

Inc round: Using yarn C, *(k2, kfb) 4 times, k2; rep from * to last 12 sts, (k2, kfb) 4 times. **160 sts**

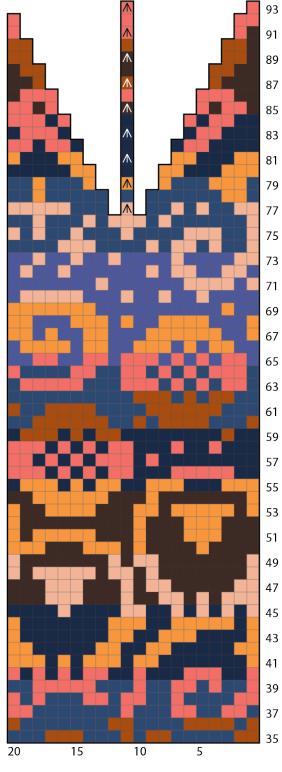
Begin working from row 1 of chart B, reading each row from right to left and working the 20 stitch repeat 8 times across the round. Continue working from chart B, changing colours and decreasing where indicated, until all 59 rows are complete. **16 sts**

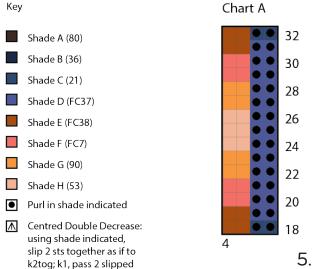
Dec round: Using yarn F, (k2tog) to end. **8 sts**Break yarn leaving a tail. Thread tail through remaining sts, draw yarn down through the centre of the gathered sts and fasten off to inside of crown.

5. FINISHING

Weave in all ends to the back of the work. Soak hat in handhot water for 20 minutes to allow stitches to relax, then press firmly between dry towels to removwater. Block hat to desired shape and dimensions over hat block, balloon or plate. A length of waste yarn may be threaded through brim and tightened during the blocking process to prevent overstretching the corrugated ribbing.

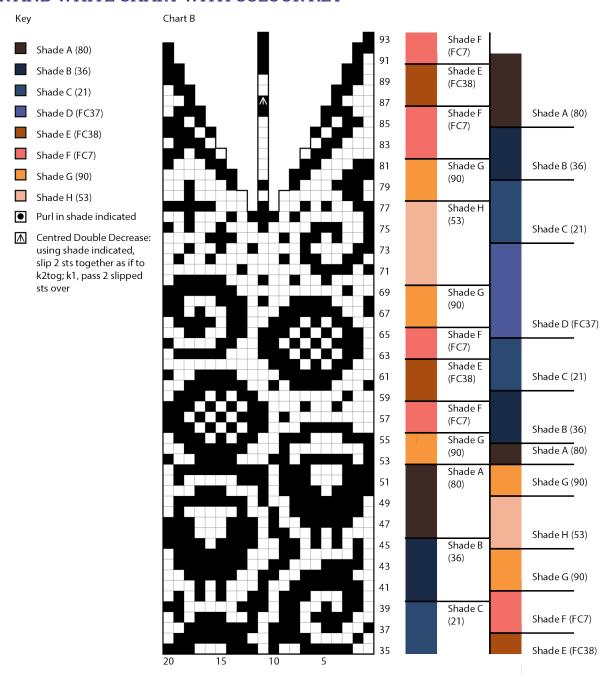




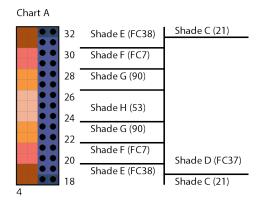


sts over

BLACK AND WHITE CHART WITH COLOUR KEY







Shades used in chart rows

CF	IA	λR	Т	Α
			-	

Chart Row	Pattern Colour	Background Colour
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	E - FC38 E - FC38 F - FC7 F - FC7 G - 90 G - 90 H - 53 H - 53 G - 90 G - 90 F - FC7 F - FC7 E - FC38 E - FC38	C - 21 D - FC37 C - FC37 C - 21

32	E - FC38	C - 21
CHART B Chart Row	Pattern Colour	Background Colour
35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75	C - 21 C - 21 C - 21 C - 21 B - 36 B - 36 B - 36 B - 36 B - 36 B - 36 A - 80 A - 80 A - 80 A - 80 A - 80 G - 90 G - 90 G - 90 F - FC7 F - FC3 H - 53 H -	E - FC38 E - FC38 F - FC7 F - FC7 F - FC7 F - FC7 G - 90 G - 90 G - 90 G - 90 H - 53 G - 90 G - 90 G - 90 G - 90 C - 21

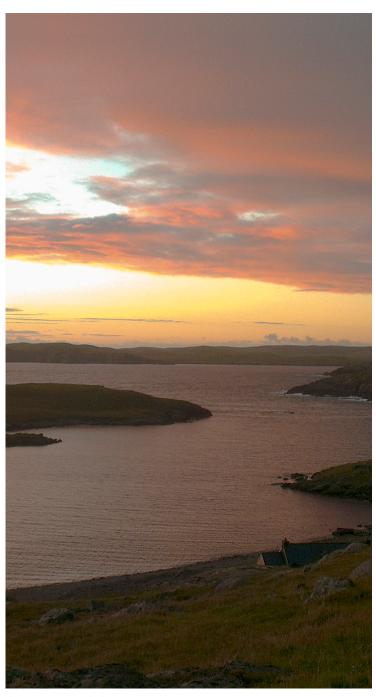


Chart Row	Pattern Colour	Background Colour
76	H - 53	C - 21
77	H - 53	C - 21
78	G - 90	C - 21
79	G - 90	C - 21
80	G - 90	B - 36
81	G - 90	B - 36
82	F - FC7	B - 36
83	F - FC7	B - 36
84	F - FC7	B - 36
85	F - FC7	A - 80
86	F - FC7	A - 80
87	E - FC38	A - 80
88	E - FC38	A - 80
89	E - FC38	A - 80
90	E - FC38	A - 80
91	F - FC7	A - 80
92	F - FC7	-
93	F - FC7	-



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To Shetland Wool Week for commissioning this pattern, which originally appeared in the Shetland Wool Week Annual, 2019 and to artist and poet Raman Mundair for sharing her poem with us here and there.



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