



# Silk Tidings

## Greetings from Salt Spring Island

Our summer has been extremely warm and dry and continues with sunny days and warm nights. It seems like summer but for the sound of crickets and an abundance of shooting stars and Mars in the night sky. We are happy for the continued good weather because we are building again. We have outgrown the new Salt Spring "house" we built when we moved here 2 years ago. We have been building an annex (big word for a small space) to be used to store all the stock that does not fit comfortably on our shelves. We are welcoming its completion so we will feel less cramped and more organized. That seems like an ongoing theme around here.

We are amazed and delighted that such diverse and interesting groups of craftspeople have been working with our silks. We have dollmakers (see Silkster's Gallery), stitchers, quilters, knitters, florists, hairdressers, soap makers, stampers, scrapbookers, book arts and of course, weavers and spinners who want to make their creations even more special with a touch of silk. We are filled to the brim with awe and admiration for the tremendous creative spirit that shines on through good times, sad times and changing times.

We are looking forward to more time for our textile passions with the coming of winter and helping you prepare for your projects during the hibernating months.

## Newsletter on Our Web Site

We have put the newsletter on our web site. This means many of you who live rurally or have slower computers will be able to read our newsletter without having to download it on your email. We will send everyone a short email message when the new newsletter is posted.

We urge you to give us your email address if you have one so you can receive the newsletter electronically. This will help save trees, postage and you will see everything in colour. Contact us at [silk@treenwaysilks.com](mailto:silk@treenwaysilks.com) to make the change. Please include your full name and address. If you have not placed an order in the last year and receive the newsletter by post, we remind you the subscription fee is \$5 yearly to help with printing and postage costs.

## Silkster's Gallery

We have a new gallery of creative work on our website. Please take the time to have a look: [www.treenwaysilks.com](http://www.treenwaysilks.com) and click on the Silkster's Gallery. **Congratulations and Thank You** to all who submitted your luscious work.



**Faye Deer** from Whitehorse, Yukon used silk fusion to create a wall hanging of the Klondike Gold Rush 1898.

**Jan Ede** from Pender Island, BC dazzled us with her exquisitely "dressed" porcelain doll tassel.

**Natalie MacKenzie** from

Davis, California wove an elegant mother of the groom dress and jacket.

**Mary Paddon & Marion Andrew** from Salt Spring Island, BC collaborated from fleece through dyeing and spinning to knitting a series of brilliant sweaters.

**Barby Paulus** from Gibsons, BC handpainted a radiant and diverse collection of scarves.

**Barbara Stollberg** from Portland, Oregon fashioned fun and stylish hats using silk fusion.

**Harriet Ringold** from Roncho

Palos, California set the task of making an awesome Chupah (wedding canopy) for her son's wedding.

**Maxine Yablonsky** from Placitas, New Mexico uses Moorman technique to interpret stunning torah cover designs from the book of Genesis.

## Enter our Gallery

We are always amazed and warmed by the abundance and quality of work people produce. Please send us a photo of your work! It's fun and you're rewarded with your choice of a skein of either 20/2 or 30/2 natural silk yarn.

See our web site for details of what we require from you to participate in this fun and exciting gallery.

Treenway Silks is located at 501 Musgrave Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, Canada, V8K 1V5.

You can reach us toll free at 1.888.383.SILK (7455) or at 250.653.2345 or by fax at 250.653.2347

or by email at [silk@treenwaysilks.com](mailto:silk@treenwaysilks.com). See our website [www.treenwaysilks.com](http://www.treenwaysilks.com).

# New Products

## Silk/Angora Rabbit Yarn (55%/45%), 30/2

China has produced another luxurious blend for us. The yarn is a natural white colour. It can be dyed in any of our 100 colours. It is the softest of all our yarns and begs to be made into a voluptuous and cozy top.

Woven on itself it creates a feather soft fabric ideal for a shawl or top, combined with our **silk/cashmere** fashions a similar downy fabric. We also crossed it with: **silk/yak** for a velvety soft hand & grey colour; **silk/camel** yields a downy fabric with a warm colour; **silk/wool** produces a light weight creamy cloth; **silk/cotton** is smooth for clothing; **30/2 silk** makes a drapey, elegant fabric; and combined with **chenille** for a plush, sensual cloth. All of the blends make great fabrics for clothing.

The skeins weight approx 100 gm (3.5 oz) and have 7000 yd/lb (14,080 m/kg). The price is \$90.75/lb or \$199.50/kg Cdn (approx. \$67.20/lb US).

## 2P Reeled Yarn on Cone

We had our factory in China help us design this yarn a number of years ago. We wanted to provide you with a fine reeled yarn about the same size as our most popular 20/2 spun silk yarn. It is white and has a sheen like all reeled silks. It is a 2 ply yarn with a twist just a little tighter than the 20/2. It makes a supple, yet firm cloth that will not pill. It is slippery like all reeled yarn, so care must be taken when winding the yarn from the skein. It combines nicely with many other yarns like: 20/2, chenille, 8/2, 20/2 noil, silk/cashmere and eyelash for clothing.

We now have it on 200 gram (approx 7 oz) cones as well as 80 gram (3 oz) skeins. It has 4700 yd/lb and costs: **skein** - \$96.25/lb or \$212/kg Cdn (approx. \$71.30/lb US) **cone** - \$98.25/lb or \$216/kg Cdn (approx. \$72.75/lb US).

This Yarn is on Special - Check the **Specials** Section!

## Silk/Yak Spinning Fibre (55%/45%)

This scrumptious fibre blend is from the factory that took two years to produce the silk/yak yarn for us. This fibre and yarn have definitely been worth waiting for. The colour is a rich and distinguished brown/gray that reminds one of a wild wolf. The fibre is wonderfully soft, but shorter than 100% silk. It is similar in staple length to our silk/cotton blend, about 2-3". This is truly an exotic spin to the Himalayan Mountains.

It is available in 100 gm (3.5 oz) packages. The cost is \$23.50/pkg Cdn (approx \$17.40 US).

## Sprinkle Dyed Variegated Wool Roving

Our Corriedale is a 30 micron fibre blend of lambs-wool and regular wool from Ashford in New Zealand. Cheryl and Mary, two of our four dyers, have teamed together to mix magic in their cauldrons to bring a life of colour to the natural white and mid-grey rovings.

This gives you a choice of clear or heathered colour for your work. The colours mix serendipitously and change further as you use them in your creations. Cheryl and Mary hope you are inspired to have as much fun spinning and felting with these luscious medleys as they have creating them.

**Nocturne** is the colour of the clouds at sunset blending periwinkle, magenta, deep purple and bright coral.

**Tango** feels like Brazil with warm reds, oranges and peach.

**Blue Symphony** harmonizes faded denim, granny smith apple green, periwinkle and soft navy.

**Rock 'n Roll Rainbow** is a cacophony of all the colours of the rainbow harmonized by magenta or blue.

They are packaged usually in amounts of 250 grams and the price is \$45.50/lb (approx \$33.70 US) or \$100/kg Cdn.



Nocturne



Rock'n'Roll Rainbow



Blue Symphony



Tango

continued on page 8...

# Embellished Art Quilts

We attended our first quilting conference as vendors in May. In preparation, we had a lot of fun creating small art quilt projects. We were inspired by and incorporated our beautiful Embellishment Kits into each of the designs. Each pattern is complete with detailed and illustrated assembly instructions, pattern pieces, list of fabric requirements and illustrated stitch guide. These special works are just the right size to travel anywhere with you and encourage your artistic flare. It is a great gift idea for your sewing, quilting or stitching friends. See each design on our web site - \$35.50 each (approx. \$26.30 US).

## Cusion Covers

**Diversity Log Cabin** – The traditional log cabin design takes on the richness of diverse cultures. Silk ribbon outlines, French knots, beads, charms and a variety of stitches flavour this pillow zesty.

**Diversity Squares & Triangles** – A blanket from India inspired the geometric shapes of this project. Lush twisted cord, luxuriant tassels, simple stitches and beads enhance the geometry of the cushion.



**Kids Korner Crazy Quilt** – Cheerful, fun and crazy! Ribbons, threads, beads and charms raise this little beauty into the rank of elegant.

## Photo Album Jacket

**Asian Flavour Album Jacket** – Simple yet striking. Alternating patterned fabric and sashiko stitched rectangles make this album cover. A thick cord ending in a brilliant tassel decorates the spine.

## Wall Hangings

**Celestial Night Sky** – Paint a lively night sky with stitches, beads and charms! Stars, planets, comets and the moon sparkle above the appliqué landscape of rolling hills and rising sun.

**Holiday Cheer Trees** – A holiday tree with garlands of ribbons, tassels and beads commands the scene. A winter pear tree and the moon enhance the appliqué landscape. A perfect holiday hanging for you or a loved one.

**Jitter Bug Fancy** – A ladybug, dragon fly, butterfly and bees come alive with stitches, beads and tassels. Two small blocks of log cabin add even more interest to this animated appliqué hanging.



**Sea Dream Fishes** – Playful fish swim above an ocean floor littered with shells, pebbles, weeds and sand. An artful use of stitches, ribbons, and beads draws you in.

**Summer Garden Houses** – The traditional house pattern blooms with flower pots, rose trellises and window boxes filled with daisies all created with stitches and beads.

## News from Treetops Colour Harmonies

For 2003 we are introducing twelve exciting Bombyx Colour Harmonies on incredibly lustrous, sensationally soft and shimmering Bombyx Silk tops. Six totally **NEW** Colour Harmonies have been created. As well, six old favorites have been updated and dyed on the Bombyx tops. There are also five new exciting colours to add to our extensive collection of Tussah Silk Colour Harmonies for a total of 24.

**Bombyx Colour Harmonies** – please see our website for colours and descriptions.

Confetti, Grape Vine, Turkish Delight, Thunderstorm, Paperbark, Sea Shells, Rhythm 'n Blues, Bougainvillea in Bloom, Sea Lavender, English Gardens, Ocean Twilight Rosella Plumes.

Available in: approx 25g (1oz), \$11.45 (\$8.50 US)/each or \$32.85 (\$24.35 US) for 3

approx 50g (1.8 oz), \$20.95 (\$15.50 US)/each

**New 2003 Tussah Colour Harmonies** – please see our website for colours and descriptions.

Jacquard, Verdura, Terra Rosa, Eucalyptus, Silverback  
Available in: approx 25g (1oz) \$10.15 (\$7.50 US)/each or \$28.95 (\$21.45 US) for 3  
approx 50g (1.8oz) \$18.25 (\$13.50)/each

These new colours are as inspirational and exciting as ever. Please have a look at the new colours on our web site or better yet, order the sample cards. That is the best way to see the true colour.

·New 2003 Tussah Colour Harmonies (5 colours) \$4.00  
·New 2003 Bombyx Colour Harmonies (12 colours) \$8.00  
·Complete Tussah Colour Harmonies (24 colours and includes the new five) \$15.00

You can see some unique silk fusion projects made with the beautiful Treetops fibres in the Silkster's Gallery on our web site.

See [www.treenwaysilks.com](http://www.treenwaysilks.com) under Treetops for colours.



# The Asian Journal

## Bali -Island of the Gods

We continue with our textile adventures in Bali.

### Textile Orientation

Our friends Jean and William came to greet us in their ceremonial clothes. They were just returning from wedding ceremonies. We set a time to meet the following morning at their adopted families home and go to Threads of Life, their textile gallery. Their lives centre around the traditional, ritual and ceremonial cloth of Indonesia. They were so happy we were there because they were meeting Pak Chok for the first time. Chok is a traditional natural dyer. We saw his nursery of *Morinda citrifolia* plants. The crushed roots



yield red dye. We discussed at length various dye formulas and techniques for morinda and indigo. We visited the dye shed to see all the ingredients discussed and observed his process. He is a batik artist whose passion is revitalization of natural dyes for ritual as well as everyday cloth. It was exciting to be part of the meeting with Pak Chok and the seven people from Threads of Life.

Their mutual respect and happiness at having "discovered" each other was delightful. During the talk of these first few gatherings it became increasingly obvious that the local cloth has social, ritual and historical meaning all woven through it. Textiles represent a great deal to those who make and use them.

### Historical Importance

The textiles of such a rich culture have had a continuous evolution and been affected within its history. Bali is situated on trade routes from Asia to the Middle East. Various waves of migrations and outside influences have effected their textile arts more than many other cultures that rarely had any outside experience. Design motifs, pattern placement, fibre, colour and



technique from China, Northern Vietnam, Middle East, India, Holland and Japan have all added to the many layers of the complexity of Balinese cloth.

### Social Meaning

Textiles supply information about a persons district and status through the use of colour and design. Certain types of cloth are used during different rites of passage and given as gifts. The old marks of social distinction for aristocracy or gender are now blurred. The greatest social feature is between everyday wear and festival garb. The traditional clothes worn at temple and celebrations imparts identity and pride in the Balinese culture and traditions.



### Ritual Significance

Man is not the centre of the Balinese world view. The divine nature or inner spirit of the living world occupies that space. This view is expressed in the places and ways in which textiles are used. Textiles are a

necessary part of many rituals, e.g. burial shrouds, weddings, tooth filing and some are believed to protect the owner against evil spirits and illness. They are wrapped around trees and statues. The motifs are often strictly dictated by tradition of symbols representing deities, spirits, wealth, power, life force and fertility.



Next issue will see us looking at different textile techniques.



# Specials

## Merino Fleeces from New Zealand

We have just 18 fleeces left from the large number we received in January. The majority of the fleeces are merino. We are offering a **20% discount**. The merinos are now \$23.00/kg, the others are \$18/kg. Price does not include shipping. No split fleeces.

#	Sheep Breed	Kgs	Colour	Comments
156	Merino	2.3	Chocolate brown	
157	Merino	2.3	Mixed Greys	
148	Merino	2.5	Dark Brown	
160	Merino	2.5	Dark Brown/Black	
161	Merino	2.5	Dark Brown	
167	Merino	2.7	Mixed Greys	
151	Merino	2.8	Dark Grey	
152	Merino	2.8	Mid and Dark Greys	
158	Merino	2.8	Black with White spots	
235	Merino	3.8	Multi Greys and beige	Big Fleece!
253	Poll Merino	2.4	Dark Chocolate Brown with white spots	

Going Fast!

## B2 Cocoons

Our supplier sent us a lower grade of cocoons by mistake. It is way too expensive to ship them back so we are offering them to you at a huge **discount of 50%**. With B2 quality there are some collapsed cocoons and some that are stained. The minimum order is 100gm (approx 3.5oz) which is approx 100 cocoons for a price of \$3.75 (approx. \$2.75 US).

## 2P Reeled Yarn

We have had 2P in skeins for a number of years. but 2P on cones is a new product to Treenway. We have given information about its characteristics and use in the New Products section of this newsletter. We are offering a **15% discount**. The price is normally: **skein** - 100g

### NOTE

1. Prices do *not* include shipping.
2. Specials end December 31st, 2003.
3. Regular 10% Discount: If silk specials are ordered in bulk, totaling over \$150.00 CDN, our normal discount for orders over \$150.00 CDN does *not* apply.

(approx 3.5oz) - \$96.25 Cdn (\$71.30 US)/lb, with the discount it is \$81.80 Cdn (\$60.60 US)/lb. The **cone** - 200g (approx. 7oz) - is normally \$98.25 Cdn (\$72.75 US)/lb, with the discount it is \$83.50 Cdn (\$61.85 US)/lb.

## 20/10 Spun Silk Yarn

We offered this yarn at a 40% discount in our last newsletter. We thought we sold out and disappointed some of you when you made your order. When we were organizing things in preparation for our move into expanded quarters, we found another box weighing 10kg.

We designed this yarn specifically for our knitters. It is creamy soft with an interesting "cord" look. We had our manufacturer take 5 strands of our most popular 20/2 yarn and ply it together. It knits beautifully and highlights

textured stitches. Bev, our knitter, has knit an overall acorn pattern and cable design using 4 1/2mm (7US) needles with a gauge of 20 sts and



32 rows = 4 inches. Both the acorn pattern and cable have a wonderful hand.

For weavers, it also combines nicely with other exotic yarns like cashmere, merino and chenille for luscious woven throws, just right to snuggle under with a good book.



This shipment is more tightly twisted than it should be. You can see in the photos of our knit samples that they are still plush, just a little tighter than our usual 20/10. We suggest it is best used with any patterns with cables. We are offering the same **40% discount**. The skeins weight approx 300g (10.5oz) and have 950 yd/lb (1900 m/kg). The discount is from \$98.50 Cdn (\$73 US)/lb to \$59.10 Cdn (\$43.80 US)/lb.



# Holiday Gift Ideas

In these tight financial times, we have a lot of practical, yet elegant treasures that would be a fanciful treat to give someone special. Please look on our web site for pictures and more details. Prices range from \$8 - \$187 Cdn. May we suggest for:

## Quilters

- Embellished Art Quilt Kits – 9 choices
- Embellishment Kits – 8 choices
- Canadiana Series Ribbons or Yarns – 30 choices
- Burmese Embellishments – 6 choices
- Silk Fusion Kit and Video – 10 choices

*Celestial Night Sky Kit*



## Weavers

- Scarf Kits – 7 choices
- Embellishment Kits – 8 choices
- Canadiana Series Ribbons and Yarns – 30
- Silk Fusion Kits and Video – 10 choices

*Flirting with Eyelash Kit*



*Fibre Fun Kit*

*The Monster Deal, Gnome*

## Spinners

- Fibre Fun Kit
- Silk Fusion Kits and Video – 10 choices
- Magic Wool Felt Box
- Needle Felting –



*Monster Deal*

## Kids

- Magic Wool Felt Box
- Needle Felting – The Monster Deal, Gnome
- Embellishment Kits – 8 choices
- Burmese Embellishments
- Rigid Heddle Scarf Kit

- Silk Fusion Kits and Video – 10 choices

## Stitchers

- Embellished Art Quilt Kits – series of 9
- Embellishment Kits
- Canadiana Series Ribbons and Yarns – 30
- Silk Fusion Kits and Video – 10 choices



*Canadiana Ribbons and Yarns*



## Scrapbookers

- Embellishment Kits – 8 choices
- Burmese Embellishments – 6 choices
- Silk Fusion Kits and Video – 10 choices

*Celestial Night Sky Embellishment Kit*

## Everyone

- Beautifully handwoven silk scarves and shawls from Phaeng Mai workshop in Laos
- Needle Felting – The Monster Deal
- Silk Fusion Kit and Video



*Phaeng Mai Scarf*

## Remember

All prices are in Canadian funds. Divide by 1.35 to arrive at the approximate price in US dollars.

# Treenway Treasures

Two new exotic yarns and a desire to make something that would suit men and women inspired this scarf. I went to my 4 shaft loom again in hopes of encouraging novice and experienced weavers alike to try this sensuous mix of silk/camel in the warp and silk/yak in the weft. It could be woven the other way, it depends on whether you want a camel colour fringe or a grey fringe.

The skeins are large enough to weave two scarves 60" long with a 6" fringe on either end. I threaded to a straight twill so I would have the option of different treadlings for each scarf.

The yarn is velvety and warm, unlike the nature of the animal that yields the fibre. Camels and yaks are superior beasts of burden in their respective environments of desert and high mountains. It is the downy undercoat of both these creatures that produces such an exotic yarn.

The natural colour of each of these yarns is warm and organic. The combination is understated, distinguished and timeless. It is perfect for both men and women. The hand is soft and feels cozy worn around the neck. Fabric made of this combination would be very nice for other types of clothing.

**Warp:** 30/2 silk 55%/Camel 45% - approx 7,400 yd/lb, (approx 1480 yd/skein).

**Weft:** 32/2 silk 55%/Yak 45% - approx 7,600 yd/lb, (approx 1520 yd/skein)

**Warp Length:** 5 yd

**Sett:** 36 EPI

**Beat:** 36 PPI

**Threading:** 4 shaft straight twill, 1,2,3,4

**Treadling:**

scarf #1: straight twill

scarf #2: reverse twill

**Finish:** Remove fabric from the loom. Cut scarves



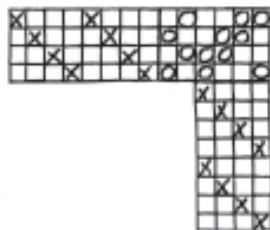
30/2 Silk/Camel & 30/2 Silk/Yak

apart and prepare fringe as desired. A twisted fringe suits this wide scarf. One eyelash and twelve threads of a stripe per twist looks very nice.

Handwash, rinse, dry and press as directed in *Care and Washing*.

**Twisting:** Separate out 13 threads to be twisted. Twist one set of 6 threads to the right. It is a rolling action between the thumb and first two fingers. Twist the second set of 7 threads to the right simultaneously. The more twist you add, the tighter looking the fringe will be. Now twist both sets together in the opposite direction. Experiment for the look you like. When you are happy with the look and length tie an overhand knot at the end of the fringe to hold the twist in place.

**Hint for an even fringe:** Lay the scarf on a table and measure from the woven edge to the edge of the table to line it up evenly. Cut the loose ends of yarn along the edge of the table for a straight finish



Yak from the Himalayan Mountains



Camels in Pushkar, India



# Special Announcements

## Two More Awards for Silk Fusion Video

We have won a total of four awards for our Silk Fusion Video. The Telly Award and Worldfest Houston Remi Award are the newest recognitions. We are proud to be honoured in the telecommunications world, as well as all the praise received from those of you who have purchased the video. The price is \$53.95 Cdn (approx. \$39.95 US)



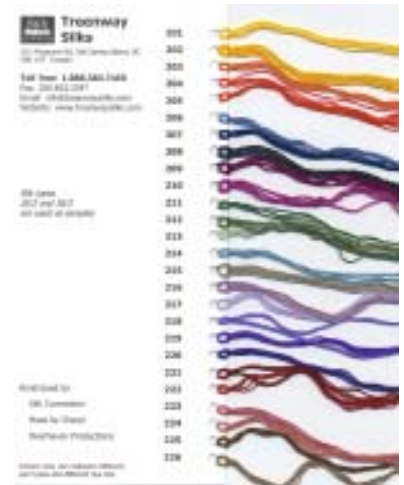
## Change in the Size of the Mini Skeins

We currently have 3 of our yarn types, 20/2, fine cord and 8/2 wound into 50yd, 30yd and 50yd amounts respectively for those of you who need

smaller amounts of yarn for your stitching, quilting and sampling projects.

The size of the mini skeins is changing to 10 yd each. Over the next year as the larger skeins run out, they are replaced with the smaller amount.

This is a good opportunity to obtain the heftier mini skeins, if you have some projects looming on the horizon. The 3 yarn types are available in all 100 colours, as supplies last.



## New Colour Sample Card

August 2002 we added 26 new colours to our palette for a total of 100 delicious hues. If you have not ordered the card with these new colours, it is \$2. You can also see the shades on our web site.

# New Products Continued

## Canadiana Ribbons and Yarns

We have had lots of fun playing with our colour palette to assemble 30 irresistible colour schemes representative of Canadian places. We have combined a set of 6 colours using 3.5mm (1/8") ribbon and we have used the same colours to provide a set using a mixture of 3 types of silk yarn.



**Ribbons** – each set brings you a total of 30 yd. (5 yd in each of the 6 colours) \$27 Cdn (approx \$20 US)

**Yarns** – 20/2, Fine Cord & 8/2 are combined with 10 yards of each colour giving a total of 60 yd in each set, \$17 Cdn (approx \$12.60 US)

Let these colourways be the inspiration for your next project: stitch, embellish, knit, weave, sew, scrapbook, quilt, gift wrap, hair adornment, tassels, braids... See the colourways on our website or ask us to send you a post card.

**Karen Selk**  
Newsletter Editor

**Rachel Bevington**  
Lay-out