

Selvedge

DESIGNER EDGE



JACQUELINE FINK

“While I was asleep, a big, loud, booming voice said to me, ‘You have to knit, and it needs to be big’. The command was as terrifying as it was profound and it woke me from my sleep. But I had asked for guidance from the Universe for so long that I didn’t dare question my vision. There was no way I wasn’t going to listen to it.”

The day following her vision, Jacqueline set about discovering what ‘knitting big’ meant to her, relying solely on her intuition. “I took the instruction to knit big literally,” she says. While searching “off the grid” for a suitable material, she came across her first bag of unspun merino wool from a farm in South Australia. Using

industrial-size needles her dad made her, she taught herself to knit with the wool. “No one in their right mind knits with it because it is as delicate as fairy floss and prone to excessive pilling and breaking with use. But so determined was I to find a way to successfully use this beautiful material that I was undeterred.”

Making lots of mistakes and pushing her body to its limits, the Sydney-based yarn artist discovered a process that would give the knits stability and functionality and would last a lifetime, including the labor-intensive task of felting the



pieces after they were knitted. Her bespoke wallhangings, blankets, throws, decorative ottomans and

installations have been showcased in interior and lifestyle magazines and have caught the attention of bloggers and stylists globally - she sells her wares both here and overseas. She’s also developed her own brand of yarn and needles, called K1S1. Her yarn is made in New Zealand using merino wool; it’s the same scale as the unspun wool but is fully felted. The PVC K1S1 knitting needles are 50mm in diameter and about 110cm in length.

Despite her passion for her craft, Jacqueline warns that extreme knitting isn’t for the faint hearted. “An average throw weighs no less than five kilograms. My larger installation pieces can weigh over 80 kilos. That’s a lot of weight bearing,” she says. Stretching and regular breaks are advised.

“I think the less you know about knitting the easier you’ll find the task because you’re not having to unlearn the physical movements typically associated with regular knitting.” And she claims it’s not only a physical workout, but a therapeutic exercise, as well - “mindfulness on steroids”, as she describes it.

Jacqueline’s knits are elegant, despite being cuddly and comforting, with a luxurious texture and enveloping quality in equal measure. And there are bigger things in the making, because she admits her obsession with large scale is getting worse.



Follow Jacqueline Fink, of Little Dandelion, on Instagram and Twitter ([jacquifink](#)) and like on Facebook ([littledandelionaustralia](#)). To buy her giant knits, or the yarn and needles to DIY, visit the website ([littledandelion.squarespace.com](#)). And for commissioning enquiries, email Jacqueline directly (hello@littledandelion.com).

— Janai Welz