

Natural Fiber Product Showcase 2009

We decided to do something a little different with this issue of CQ. Instead of focusing on the animals, we have chosen to place the emphasis on Fleece, Fiber and an amazing array of Finished Products.

What are breeders doing with their animals' fiber? Does everything go to the mill or are people getting creative with it? We wanted to know, so... the CQ Natural Fiber Showcase was born with fiber producers and crafters from all over North America being invited to participate.

The response was amazing; the quality of the work most impressive. As you look over the items on the following pages, and throughout this entire issue of CQ for that matter, know that this is but a sampling of the creativity and ingenuity that exists around us. We are sure that you, too, will be impressed and inspired by the work. We also ask that you go on-line to our web site and view the entire selection chosen from the hundreds of items submitted.

While you are there, please show your recognition for these people's works by voting for your 3 most favorite items. The task won't be easy but we're sure you will enjoy the experience. Please read the Voting Instructions (outlined below), follow them carefully and Vote.

We here at CQ heartily thank everyone for their submissions and 'Thanks' to each of you for taking the time to cast your ballot(s) in recognition of their achievements.

Voting Instructions

1. Visit www.llamas-alpacas.com/Showcase.
2. Grab a cup of coffee and settle in to view all the items.
3. Call up your ballot by selecting the 'Ballot' button displayed conveniently - and prominently - on the screen.
4. Choose your three (**only 3**) favorite items and vote for them, one at a time, by clicking on the 'Vote for This' button beside the item listing. This will automatically call up an e-mail message to be sent to our team of scrutineers.
5. Select 'Send' ...and just like that, your vote will be cast. Remember: Do this for no more than three items. Voting for more than three will render your ballot null and void.

CAUTION! DO NOT change the subject line of the e-mail or attempt to include a message. Doing so will send your ballot spinning into the cyber-trash and never, ever, count for anything.

IN SHORT: View the images, click 'Vote For This', hit 'Send' and...*That's It. Your work is finished.*



Submitted by:
Linda Kemilainen,
Rancho Tranquilo,
Mamora, Ontario

The llama dolls were made from boiled alpaca yardage. The pieces were then cut out, sewn by machine and stuffed with 100% cotton wadding. Faces and feet were hand molded using fimo clay.

Submitted by:
Brenda Treibel,
Enumclaw,
Washington

The needle felt sculpture of raccoons in a tree are a project Brenda undertook to see what the fiber could do and hold. The sculpture stands on its own; there are no wires or forms, just sheep, llama and alpaca fiber. The raccoon that is hanging in the tree can swing. All the work was done by needle felting. Brenda learned to needle felt a hat at her first llama show. From there she progressed to teddy bears and on to dogs. Next she did a sculpture of a trout in which the trout, the mount and the rocks were all made from fiber. Brenda loves what she can do in fiber and, even more, what the fiber can do for her.



See all entries and vote for your favorites - online at www.Llamas-Alpacas.com/Showcase

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Submitted by:
Stevi T,
Alpaca
Encounters,
New Milford,
Pennsylvania

"Mommy! I'm Stuck!" 100% Alpaca Fiber, glass taxidermy, light blue eyes. 7" tassel made of various yarns, including alpaca.



Submitted by:
Jim
Covington,
Oyama Lake
Alpaca Farm,
Oyama,
British Columbia

The sushi pin cushions were created using a variety of leftover fibres from different alpacas that had been carded into a batt, which was then laid out on the table. Leftover yarns and fibres were added to cover the batt. The batting was then rolled into the shape of a long French baguette, stuffed into a mesh bag and cinched tightly. It was then tossed into the washing machine and using hot water and a small amount of soap, was agitated for ten minutes. When the 'baguette' was completely dry, it was sliced thus revealing its unique 'sushi' designs.



Submitted by:
Elisabeth Fortin,
AlpacAdore,
Quebec

This unique Water Lily Necklace can be worn as a choker with the leaves dangling low or as shown with the leaves higher up...with the flower to one side or center, and with the leaves aligned or asymmetrical. You could even use it to decorate a hat or wear the Water Lily alone, as a brooch. Made from 100% natural alpaca, no dyes or harsh chemicals were used. Fibre was hand washed and carded and this unique piece was made using needle and water felting techniques.



Submitted by:
Amy Carpenter
-Tonning,
Legacy Lane
Fiber Mill,
Markhamville,
New Brunswick

This image of a tree is made from left over yarn that has been felted onto a sheet of felt made from alpaca fiber not suitable for a higher end product such as yarn. The yarn used in the design would have been tossed as it was bits and pieces left over from making yarn. The wall hanging measures 4ft. by 3ft. and is mounted on a wooden frame.

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Submitted by: Mary Prantil,
Prantil's Sierra Llamas,
Colfax, California

This hand woven mask is called 'Warrior's Tears'. It is made from hand spun llama, hand spun alpaca and non-typical peacock feathers. It is embellished with bone, brass and copper beads.



Submitted by: Judi Brook,
Moondance Llamas,
Three Rivers, Michigan

To make this grey purse, two strand dark gray llama yarn and one strand of light gray llama yarn were knitted together to make a 'football' shaped purse. It was then machine felted. The flap has been embellished with pheasant feathers, silk flowers and ribbon, copper beads and a tiger eye button.



Submitted by:
Finca Alta
Vista, LLC,
Pleasant
Mount,
Pennsylvania
Artist: Wendy
Hower, New
Canaan,
Connecticut

Searching for ways to use every fiber from their alpacas, Finca Alta Vista discovered Wendy Hower who utilizes a pottery technique called 'Horse Hair Firing' to incorporate the charred carbon footprint of alpaca fiber into her pottery work. The technique begins with a RAKU kiln. The artist takes the bisque piece of potter and fires the unglazed piece to 1,400 degrees. The piece is taken from the kiln and placed on a bed of sand. Alpaca fiber is quickly draped over it and a metal bucket placed over the item to slow the cooling process. When sufficiently cooled the piece is removed from the sand and rinsed with water. When dry it is sprayed with sealer to help preserve the intricate designs made by the carbon.



Submitted by: Lois Burbach,
Navajo Lake Alpacas,
Ignacio, Colorado

This selection of Western hats was felted from alpaca and finished with wire in the brim and a grosgrain ribbon.

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Submitted by: Lisi Ott,
Purple Crayon Ranch,
Leavenworth, Washington

Lisi was inspired to make this sweater by the unique construction of the pattern. It began with one square, then a row of squares, then strips picked up along the squares until a quarter of the sweater was formed. Then each quarter was sewn together forming the beautiful mitered effect along the front, back and sides. Lisi attempted to use every color of alpaca that she owns but there were three colors she was not able to fit into this design.



Submitted by:
Ausma Clappison,
Gentle Glade
Alpacas/Studio,
Norwood, Ontario

The Wedding Cape was designed to showcase the beauty of alpaca fibre. The cape is made of 100% alpaca fibre from one of Ausma's own animals. The fibre was hand washed and carded then wet felted onto

three pieces of silk chiffon. The pieces were sewn together and free style quilted on a sewing machine. The fringe is made of 525 yards of mill processed, lace weight 80% alpaca/20% silk yarn. The cape has been lined with Dupioni silk and embellished with fresh water pearls, seed beads and Swarovski crystal. It is held closed with satin ribbons. The back of the cape displays a heart within a heart, symbolizing the true love of both alpacas and humans.



Submitted by: Hedi Gossweiler,
Swiss Line Alpacas,
Herbert, Saskatchewan

This more 'funky' and 'holly' piece of fashion was designed and hand made by Hedi and is made of 100% alpaca.



Submitted by: Sharon Winsauer,
Aurora Alpacas,
Bath, Michigan

Description: This "Just A Butterfly" shawl is an original design. It was hand knit from handspun black alpaca, blended with blue and green silk. This unusual shaped shawl is remarkably wearable. The overall size is 47 x 36 inches. The wings contain five different lace patterns.

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