



Today's post is written by Kat Coyle and is cross posted from her own blog which you can find [here](#). This is Kat's third design for Twist Collective. She also designed [Petal](#) and [Ardent](#).

The new [Twist Collective](#) came out last week, and it's filled with beautiful knitting patterns. I'm so, so, so, pleased to be a part of it. My shawl pattern [Courting Sophia](#) is one of a [few gorgeous lace shawl and scarf patterns](#). It's great to have a nice variety of lace patterns to choose from. My piece was inspired by hand woven lace shawls from Mexico, fairy tales and the art knitting of [Mary Walker Phillips](#).



Photo Credit: Caroline Bergeron

The photo above is from [Twist Collective](#). Photo copyright Caroline Bergeron. I like the dramatic swirl of fabric and the dance like movement, dashing off to the spring fiesta. Ravelry link for [Courting Sophia](#).



As I recall the theme mentioned with the submission page had something to do with parties. In my imagination I pictured a landscape with wispy trees, lacy fences, and strings of lights. I tried to convey the landscape of romance at a summer party. The folk art painting above is from a plate hanging in my mother's house. I like to knit with her and I know that images like this plate influence my design work.





Shawl and skirt image from [Self Portrait in a Velvet Dress](#), a book of Frida Kahlo's wardrobe beautifully photographed and catalogued for the world to admire.





The lovely, golden yarn, [Laci from Blue Moon Fiber Arts](#), in 24-karat color way, no less, adds to the effect of a deep summer glow



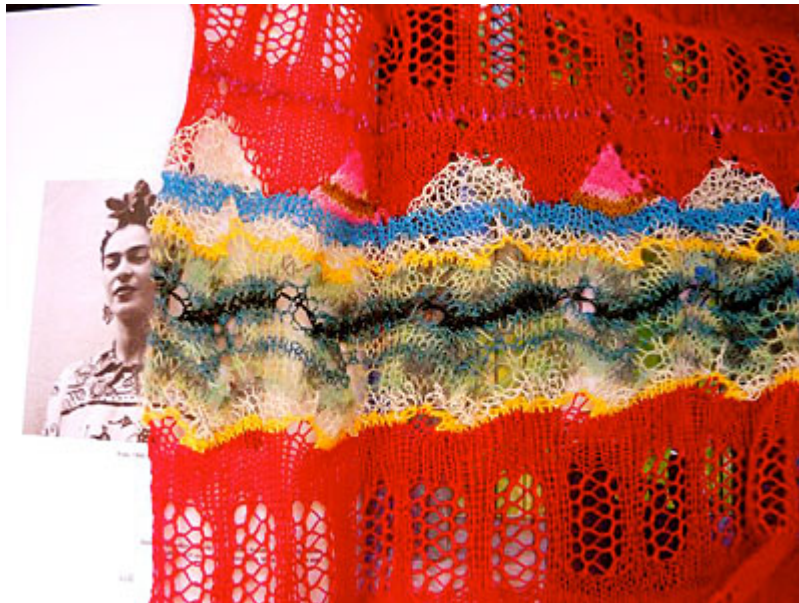


After the issue came out, I got excited to knit another Courting Sophia. Lately, I've become obsessed with red.



After knitting a few rows, I thought it would be great fun to add more colors! In my mind, the mohair stripes with pink and white triangles represent the smoggy, horizon with mountains landscape of Los Angeles.

If you decide to include intarsia details, make sure you work with bobbins. At first, I tried it with the yarns hanging loose. What a mess! Imagine thirty different lace weight yarns tangled up. Once, I got organized with bobbins, everything got a lot simpler.





Here is my palette. A wide assortment of wool, mohair and alpaca yarns, with one mystery glitzy thread. Metallics used sparingly are like flashes of light.
ravelry link for the [red Courting Sophia](#) and [yellow Courting Sophia](#).



More inspiration from Frida Kahlo's closet.