

MATILDA NORBERG

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Photographer Ceen Wahren

Matilda Norberg is bringing about a knitwear revolution. The Swedish-born graduate of the renowned MA Womenswear/Knitwear program at the Royal College of Art unveiled arresting innovative knitwear in her graduate show in 2015. The collection explored the theme of 'the crust of the Earth' and featured coats with rising and rippling surfaces, tops reminiscent of beds of sandstone, and dresses that looked like flowing and expanding lava. All of these styles were created through the skillful use of advanced knitting techniques. Norberg explains: "When an idea for a knit structure suggests new shapes, silhouettes and methods of constructing garments, I am exactly where I want to be. My work focuses on exploring knit techniques to find ways of developing and pushing them forward."

The designer has a strong interest in textiles and seeks to go beyond their limits: she customizes her knitting machines and makes her own sewing tools, creating unique techniques and materials.

By combining machine- and hand-knitting, she manages to implement a variety of stitches and blend diverse materials, such as foam and rubber. Norberg has received the Best Knitwear Collection Award from **Loro Piana**, won the Feel the Yarn international competition, as well as the Sainsbury's competition in 2014. She also secured the Education Award from the Swedish Society of Crafts and Design. www.matildanorberg.se