

Avec 100 gr de laine... (With 100 gr of Wool...)

behave. I knew I wanted to



Prize winners of the 100g wool competition
Mix of felted, knitted and crocheted wool

At the beginning of the year the Filière laine in Belgium organized a competition entitled 'with 100gr wool...' The goal was to promote local sheep wool, encourage creativity and bring awareness to the public. The wool in question meant wool that had been produced in Wallonia mostly, but also in Flanders and France. The emphasis was to encourage people to use locally supplied wool rather than imported wool. The challenge was to use only the 100g provided in the form you chose and with no other materials. This could be felted, crocheted, knitted etc. 120 people participated from 9 different countries. I decided to enter at the last minute

and I received 100g of beautifully carded wool produced by a Belgian organic sheep farmer, Heid de Frenay. Based in Sprimont, Belgium, Heid de Frenay has a small flock of beautiful Roux Ardennais sheep. They wash the wool on site, using spring water for the first wash then rain water with Marseilles soap for the second. The wool is then brought to the Natural Park museum in Esch-sur-Sure where it is carded using traditional machines.

Inspired by spring time, I decided to make a felted piece representing a play on textures and stimulating colours. I had no idea how this wool would

highlight the softness and the natural characteristic of the wool. I hand dyed a small part of it to obtain some colours (using Greener Shades dyes) and manipulated the piece with thread and shibori techniques to give texture and movement. This wool turned out to be perfect for this. A few months later I was delighted to learn that my piece had been selected to be part of the international exhibition associated with this competition. 30 pieces in total were chosen. The piece, entitled Emoi (emotion) is being displayed in a travelling exhibition throughout Belgium, Luxembourg and France



until October 2016. From clothing to artistic pieces, all pieces highlight different uses of wool. Three first prizes were allocated (see photos) and you can see the first exhibition

in the following TV report:
http://www.tvlux.be/video/avec-100-grammes-de-laine-je-cree_19169.html

Fabienne Herbert



'Avec 100gr de laine...'



Felt Tips

- 1- Never use wet hands with dry wool. Or dry hands with wet wool.
- 2- Always have soap on your hands to prevent hairiness.
- 3- Pilling won't happen if your piece is fully felted.
- 4- On thicker items use batts to build up your layers. Lay each batt at 90° angle to each other. They work fine with superfine merino tops as your surface layers.

