



**TINKUY 2017**  
GATHERING OF THE TEXTILE ARTS  
WEAVING THE PAST, PRESENT, & FUTURE

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**Workshop Descriptions**

**Hands-On Workshops**

All of the hands-on workshops are offered every day from Nov 9 – 11 during Tinkuy 2017. Each workshop is a total of 4 hours of instruction: 10:30a-12:30p and 2:00p-4:00p.

**Basic Backstrap Weaving**

Instructors: Weavers from the community of Chinchero

Difficulty Level: Basic

Andean weavers have used backstrap looms since time immemorial, creating some of the most complex textiles in the world with advanced techniques. Of the hundreds of textile techniques invented and used in the Andes, complementary warp faced weaving is perhaps the most widely used today. In this workshop you will learn the basics of weaving on a backstrap loom in the *doble cara* (complementary warp faced) technique. Like all beginning weavers, you will start weaving on *jakima*, narrow ribbons that teach the basic principles and mechanics of handling a backstrap loom. After weaving a *jakima* of J'ata, or plainweave, you will then move on to learning Tanka ch'uru, the first design nearly all young weavers learn. This workshop will teach you all the basic principles of the *doble cara* technique that you will need to weave larger pieces.

**Advanced Backstrap Weaving**

Instructors: Weavers from the community of Pitumarca

Difficulty Level: Advanced

For those already familiar with the backstrap loom, this workshop focuses on an advanced form of the *doble cara* (complimentary warp faced) technique that is known simply as three color designs. This workshop will teach you how to weave the design Chunchu in three colors in a *chumpi*, or belt. Chunchu are people of the Amazonian jungle, and figure prominently in many weaving designs as well as in traditional dances in the Cusco region. Students who sign up for this workshop ought to already be familiar with weaving on the backstrap loom and confident in their abilities to weave in the *doble cara* technique.

### **Chichilla Tubular Border Weaving**

Instructors: Weavers from the community of Accha Alta and Chahuaytire

Difficulty level: Beginner

Although many of us are more familiar with the now-famous tubular border technique Ñawi awapa from Chinchero, weavers from the communities of Accha Alta and Chahuaytire maintain a sister technique known as Chichilla. As in ñawi awapa, this tubular border is also woven and sewn onto the edge of the textile at the same time. Unlike in ñawi awapa, however, chichilla makes use of multiple heddles to create the ‘eye’ design. In this workshop you will learn how to warp and set up the heddles for chichilla, which is the hardest part of the technique. After setting up your small loom, you will realize the advantage of using multiple heddles as weaving becomes incredibly easy.

### **Qhurpus Knitting**

Instructors: Weavers from the community of Accha Alta

Difficulty level: Beginner

While knitting was introduced to the peoples of South America by the Spanish, since colonial times indigenous peoples have made the technique entirely their own as they invent new designs and variations. In Accha Alta weavers create unique *chullo*, or hats, using a technique known as *qhurpus* in Quechua and *bolitas* in Spanish. The names for this technique derive from the small, decorative bobbles that cover the outside of the hat. Traditionally adults made chullo in the qhurpu technique for children for good luck and protection. Before knitting, they tie thousands of the qhurpu bobbles into the knitting yarn. In this workshop you will learn how to tie the bobbles into the yarn before knitting, and then how to knit a small bag in the qhurpu technique.

### **Andean Spinning**

Instructors: Weavers from the community of Sallac

Difficulty level: Beginner

Have you ever wondered how weavers use a simple drop spindle to produce the huge quantities of thread they need to create their beautiful textiles? How do they keep the spindle spinning, and what really are the mechanics behind it? Discover the answers to all of these questions and more as you learn to spin and ply yarn from alpaca fiber and then create skeins using a number of different techniques. While the concepts of spinning with a drop spindle are simple, it takes great skill, practice, and dedication to reliably produce beautiful, even thread.