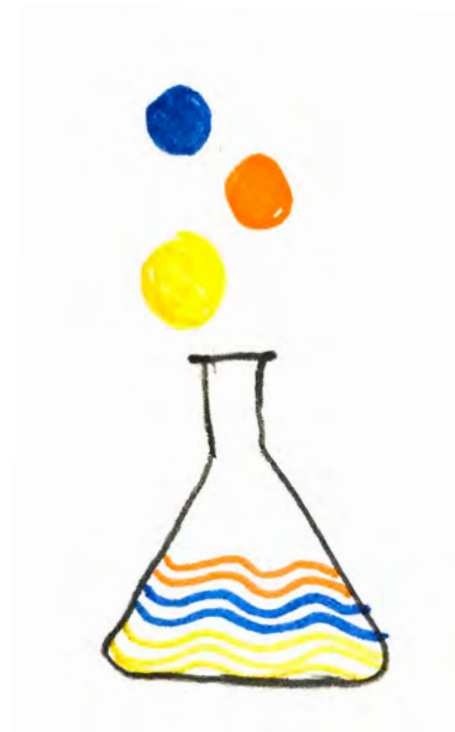




Sustainable Manufacturing with Artisan Co-ops



What is Kara Weaves?



Who are we?



Indu Menon

Co-Founder, Managing Partner

Social anthropologist
& co-author of [Women Weavers](#) (1983)



Chitra Gopalakrishnan

Co- Founder, Art Director

MFA from the
Cranbrook Academy of Art in the
USA & ESAG Penninghen, France



Asha Menon

Founding Partner & Social
Outreach

Noted film actor Revathy,
film director and social activist



Sulochana Menon

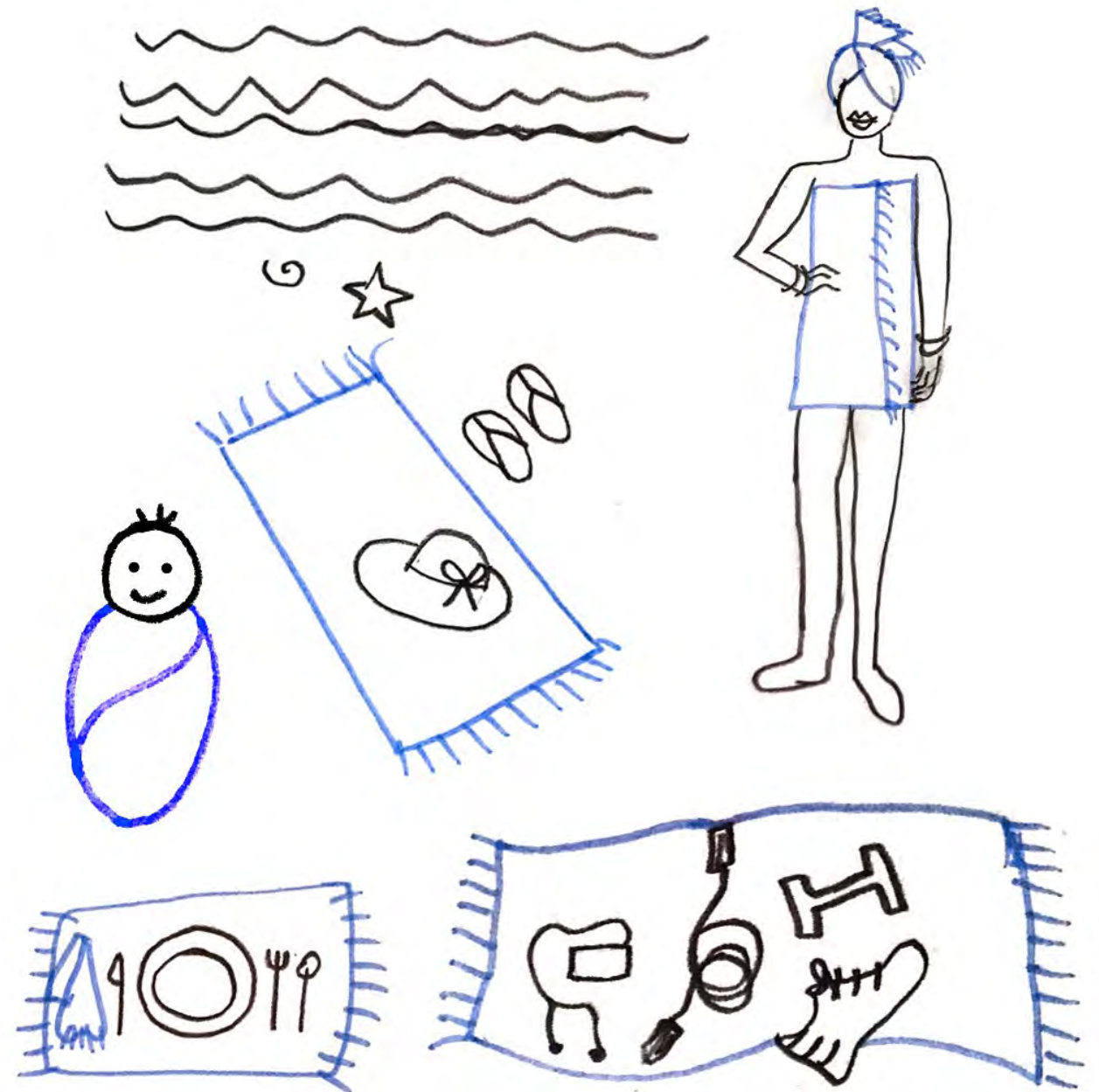
Fabric Expert

A veteran expert of all things
traditional and hand-woven in
Kerala

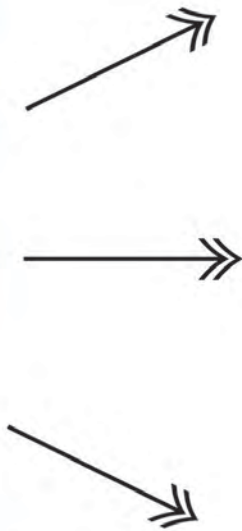
What do we make?



A close-up photograph of a blue and white vertically striped fabric, likely a shirt, draped and folded over a dark surface. The fabric is gathered in several places, creating deep folds and shadows that emphasize its texture. The stripes are thin and evenly spaced. The background is a dark, textured surface, possibly a table or floor.







Resort wear



Beach mats/towels



Towels



Pouches



Sarongs



Napkins



Bathrobes



Kitchen towels



Baby blankets



How is each piece designed?



1) DESIGNING AT OUR STUDIO



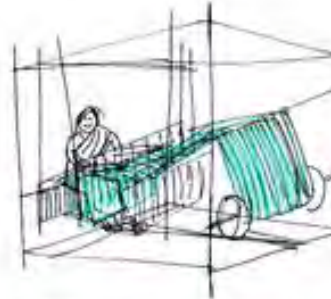
2) SEND DESIGNS TO WEAVING CO-OPS



3) REVIEW SAMPLES & COLORS



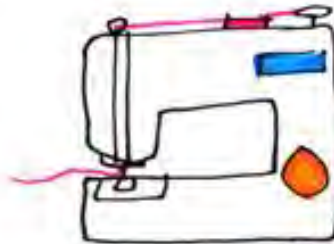
4) CHECK FOR QUALITY & DESIGN



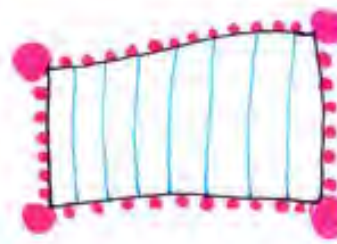
5) PLACE FINAL ORDERS AT CO-OPS



6) WOVEN FABRIC IS SENT TO OUR STUDIO



7) PRODUCTS ARE TAILORED AT OUR STUDIO OR AT TAILORING CO-OPS



8) TRIMS AND TAGS ARE ATTACHED IN OUR STUDIO

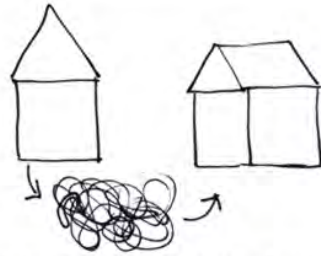


9) FINAL QUALITY CHECK



10) PACKED & SHIPPED OUT TO YOU!!

HANDWEAVING IN DETAIL



1) YARN IS PROCURED BY HANDLOOM WEAVING CO-OPERATIVES FROM GOVERNMENT YARN BANK



2) YARN IS WASHED AND SOFTENED TAKING UP TO 5 DAYS



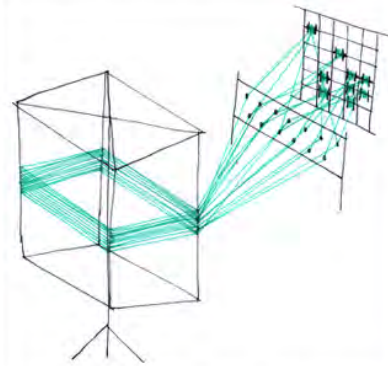
3) YARN IS HAND-DYED USING AZO-FREE DYES



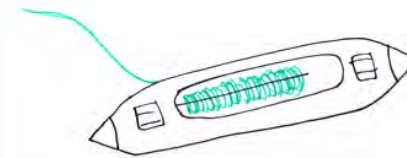
4) DYED YARN IS LINE-DRIED IN THE SUN. TAKING SEVERAL DAYS DEPENDING ON THE WEATHER



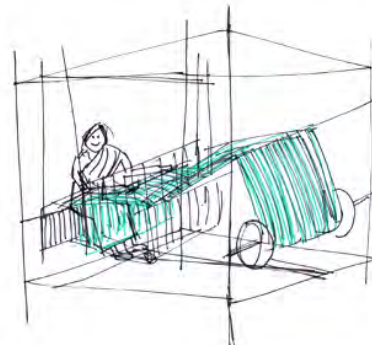
5) YARN IS HANDSPUN ONTO SMALL BOBBINS



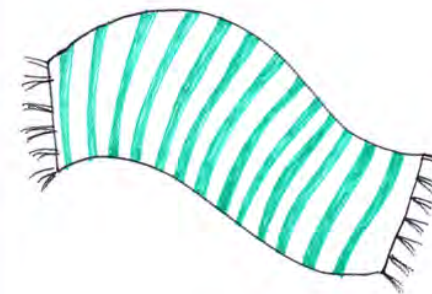
6) YARN IS SPUN FROM BOBBINS ONTO A LARGE FRAME WHICH STARTS THE SET-UP OF THE WARP OF THE LOOM



7) SMALLER BOBBINS ARE ALSO MADE FOR THE WEFT SHUTTLES AND CONNECTED TO THE LOOM



8) THE WARP ON THE LOOM IS SET BY THREADING EACH THREAD THROUGH THE HEDDLES IN THE SHAFT AND DENTING IT THROUGH THE BEATER. WEAVING IS DONE USING THE BEATER AND THE SHUTTLE IN EACH ARM AND GUIDED BY THE FOOT PEDALS.



9) IN A PROCESS THAT TAKES SEVERAL DAYS, FINALLY ONE DECEPTIVELY SIMPLE-LOOKING TEXTILE IS CUT FROM THE LOOM, TAILORED INTO HOME TEXTILES, OR GARMENTS AND ENJOYED BY EVERYONE FOR YEARS TO COME!

How do we build this?



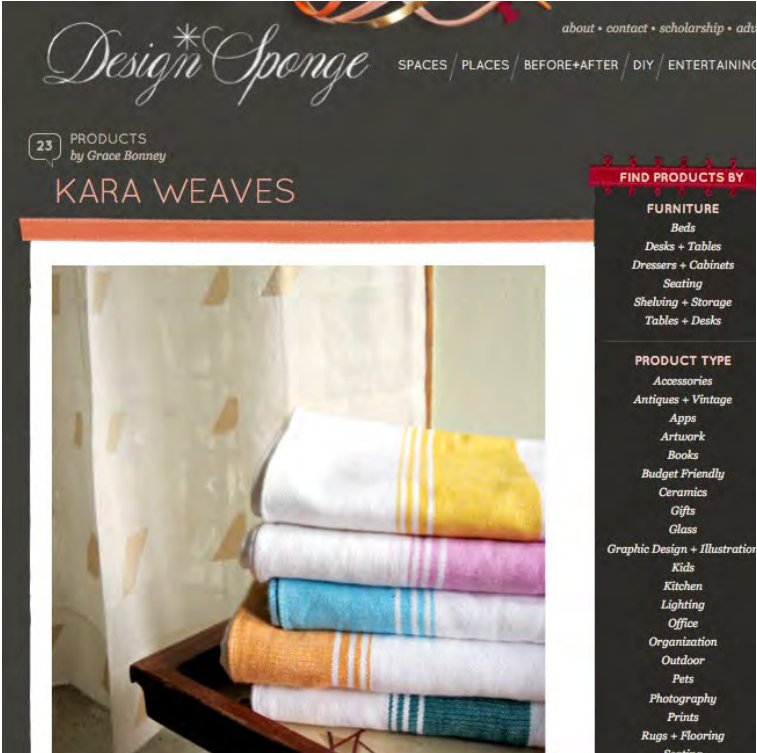
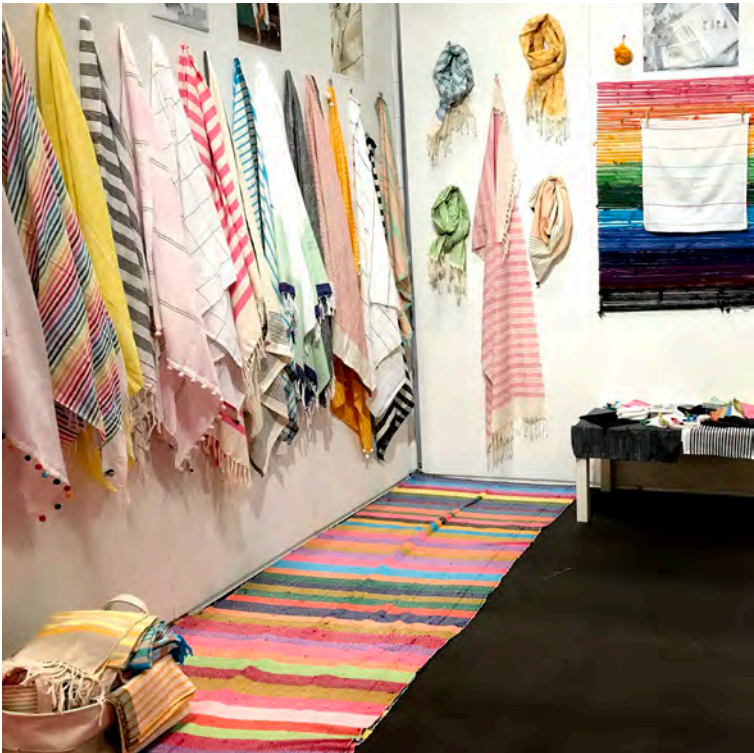
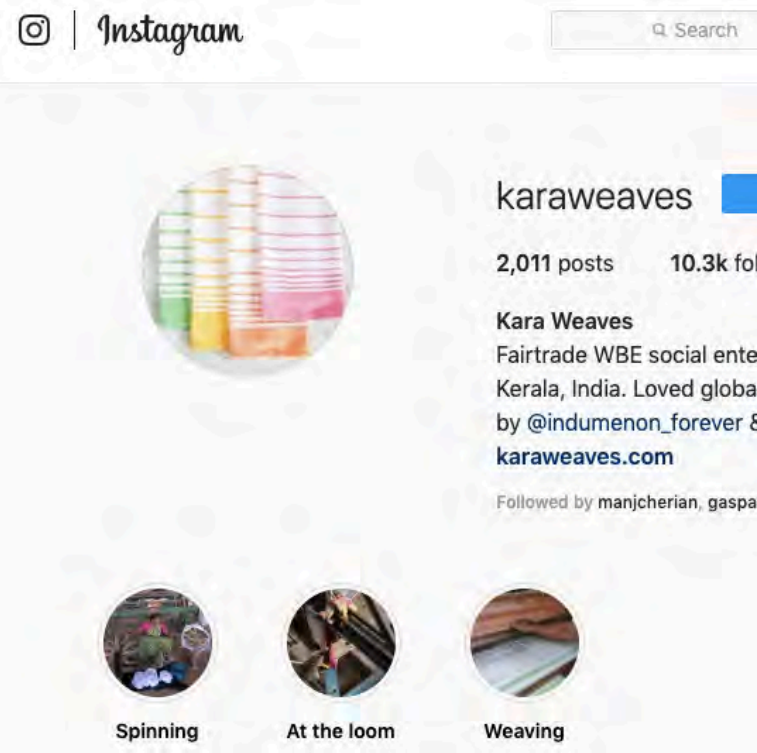




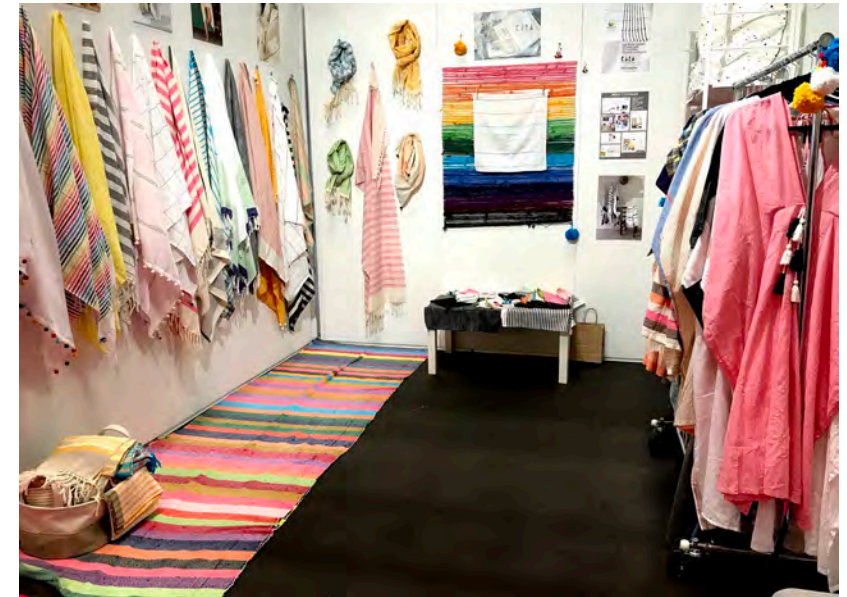




How do we find our buyers?







Who are (some of) our buyers?



ANTHROPOLOGIE

WILLIAMS-SONOMA

abc carpet & home

SCHOOLHOUSE
ELECTRIC & SUPPLY CO.

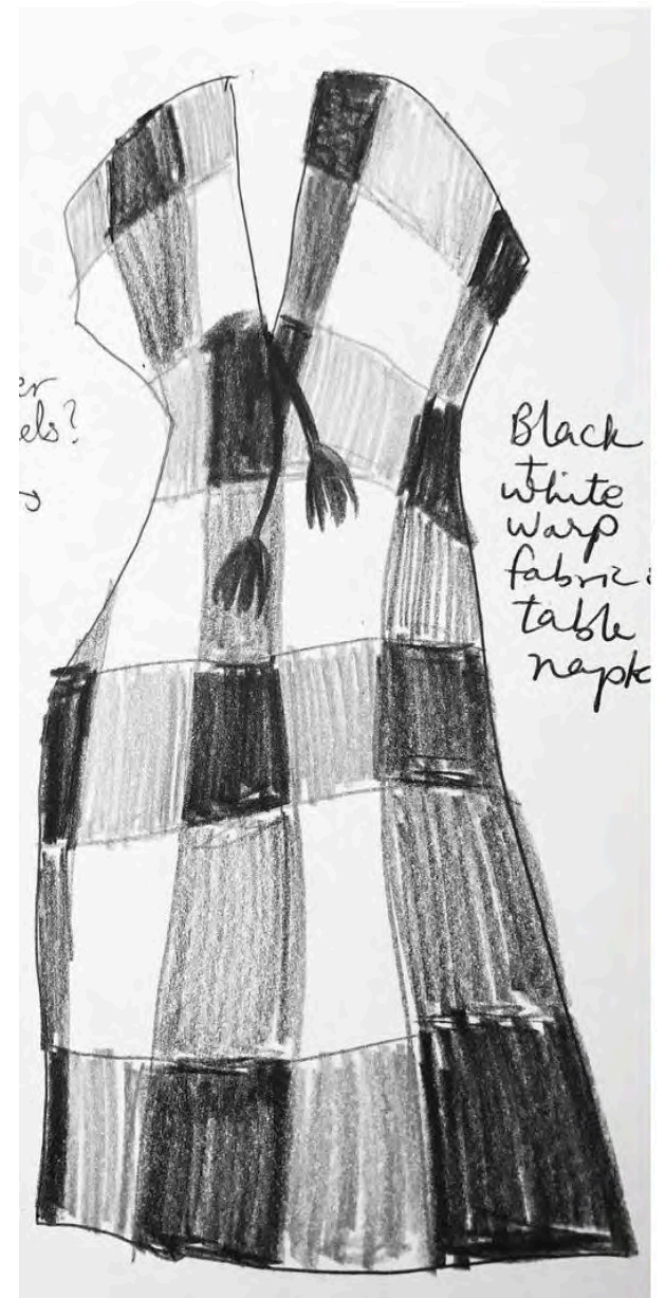


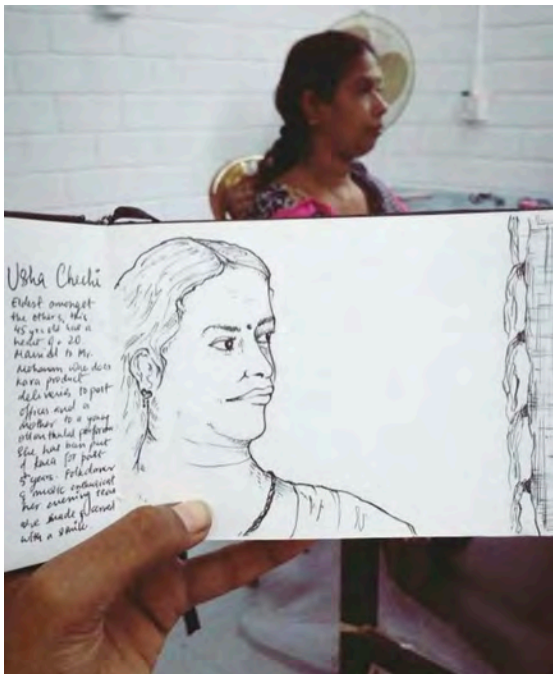
FOLK DAYS

the little market

A NONPROFIT FOUNDED BY WOMEN TO EMPOWER WOMEN

bloomingdale's









thank you!

@karaweaves