

For Immediate Release

If a Yarn Bomb Explodes in a Forest and No One Is Around to See It,
Is It Still Art?

Like so many others, Stephen Duneier sets New Year's Resolutions for himself. What makes him unique is that he sets them big, proclaims them publicly and most importantly, he actually fulfills them. This year's resolution is to learn 12 new things. "I'm looking for quirky, seemingly difficult things that most people marvel at, yet could be accomplished if you just make an effort and have the discipline and tenacity to stick with it," he says. It began with unicycling, slacklining, jumping stilts, drumming and ballroom dancing, and at his wife's suggestion he took on knitting.

Duneier stated on his blog, "Making a scarf is fun, but to be honest, I don't wear scarves and no one else would want to wear this debacle when I'm done. Instead, I am going to attempt a yarn bomb." That was his declaration on March 20th and since then he has been knitting feverishly so as to have it done in time for International Yarn Bombing Day. Thanks to his followers, knitters from California, Montana, Minnesota, Florida, Georgia, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, Oklahoma, Alabama, Maine, London, Paris, Bulgaria, South Africa, Chile, Indonesia and New Zealand have also been hard at work, sending him their own knitted pieces to be a part of this unique and first of its kind, Santa Barbara event.

It all comes together Friday, June 8th, 2012 at 5:00pm when a group of volunteer knitters will meet at the Cold Spring trailhead for the 2.5 mile hike up 2,500 feet to the most popular Eucalyptus tree in Southern California. They will wrap the 30 foot tall Santa Barbara fixture with almost 400 square feet of yarn to bring attention to "the beauty of the trails, art for art's sake and the benefits of a purely analog activity in a digital world." Knitters who can help connect the swatches are welcome to participate and observers are encouraged to keep them company.

The yarn bomb will remain for only a few days before being removed by Duneier, so those hoping to catch a glimpse of this unique art exhibit in the raw will need to be quick. Once the bomb is defused, all material will be donated to Warm Up America, a North Carolina based non-profit that will turn the material into blankets, hats and scarves for those in need.

To learn more, visit 12for2012.wordpress.com.

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