



**A Greeting from  
the President of Iceland  
Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson and  
Guðrún Katrín Þorbergsdóttir**

Iceland is proud to celebrate Lopi, its gift and good will ambassador to the world. In Japan, Europe, America – and places in between – Lopi yarn and Lopi designs are instantly recognizable and identified with our country. The first image of Iceland for many people has been the one pictured in the colorful Lopi sweater photos that have graced magazines and pattern books.

Lopi is a hardy yarn, brought to you by a hardy breed and a hardy people, and its knitting tradition is treasured folk-art that stretches into the mists of Iceland's past. Today, Icelandic knitters – including my wife Guðrún Katrín – are keeping this rich tradition alive with their innovative designs and love for Lopi garments, and are being supported in this effort by the design competitions of Istex Ltd., Lopi's manufacturer.

Guðrún Katrín joins me in congratulating Istex on its milestone anniversary, and in wishing them, and JCA, all the best in the years to come. And to you, the knitters of Knitter's Magazine, we offer our thanks for helping keep our wonderful Icelandic Lopi tradition alive.