



Jess Kavanagh

Olann

Olann was born out of a desire to create a range of sophisticated colours on ethically sourced yarns. Jess had a yearning to create with her hands, using experimental dye techniques and traditional materials, to return to a more sustainable time when quality and craftsmanship were valued over the mass produced.

Jess has a BA in Fashion and Textile Design and was head intern with leading designer Todd Lynn in London. She has won several awards for her work including runner up in the Persil Irish Fashion Awards. The idea for Olann began when she joined a knitting group. She found when looking for hand dyed yarn that there was a significant gap in the market for wearable colours and that other yarn companies relied heavily on trends to sell their yarns. She felt she could offer knitters something more than just a trend, something with a vision.

In their first year of trading, Olann was placed runner up in the Best Start Up category in the IBYE National Final and last year Jess was included in the Sunday Independent's 'Top 30 Entrepreneurs Under 30 Years Old'.

The next stage for Olann is to develop new methods of processing to innovate their own fleece in-house, as well as scaling to a larger dye studio. Jess also has ambitions to launch a sister clothing line which will focus on and complement the same core values and ethos that the company was built on- sustainability, organic and hand made.

www.olann.ie

