



## Crochet Guild of America

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CL 2003 Conference Chair

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

**June 30, 2003**

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Crochet has been riding a wave of popularity lately, what with it being so prominent in the ready to wear industry and constantly adorning celebrities, such as Mira Sorvino, Janet Jackson and Cindy Crawford. Vivienne Tam, whose designs cover many stars, said in *People Magazine*, "It's sexy because it falls just right over the shape of the body." Angela Missoni in *Knit 'n Style* (June 2003) explained, "...making a strong statement for transparency are the plethora of airy crochets shaped into brief sweaters, easy dresses and beach cover-ups." In the same article, Stella Parisi, a buyer said, "We haven't seen this much crochet work in a long time. The trend is bound to inspire lots of women to take up their crochet hooks." Mary Kate and Ashley Olsen have a line of clothing at Walmart and color-coordinated crochet sweaters are included.

Determined not to be outdone by the stars who crochet such as Caroline Rhea, Tyra Banks, Debra Messing, members of the Crochet Guild of America will stage a crochet fashion show July 26 at their annual crochet conference at the Radisson Hotel O'Hare. Entitled, "Jazz Up Your Style with Crochet," the show will feature some 80 crocheted garments created in the past year by members who want to showcase their talents. Semi-professional models will don the clothes and walk the runway.

Marge Scensny, of Schaumburg, is in charge of the show together and it is the second time she has volunteered to coordinate this event. This fashion show has grown in size and sophistication since the one I coordinated in 1997," remembers Marge. "We have fabulous free-form garments by Prudence Mapstone from Australia and many more intriguing fashions. We will also be showing the garments from "Today's Crochet," a book of sweaters exclusively by Crochet Guild designers "Participants at our conference look forward to the latest designs in crochet and are inspired by the fashion show which culminates the weekend's events."

Caroline Rhea, a "crochet enthusiast," featured Lily Chin, "Fastest Crocheter in the World," on her show and Lily will be in attendance at the conference. No stranger to the limelight, Lily leads the "Crochettes" who will perform before the Fashion Show with their crochet-themed parodies to the tunes of rock 'n roll. For complete conference information, check [www.crochet.org/2003conf/index.html](http://www.crochet.org/2003conf/index.html).