

This is Patrica Hernandez reading on behalf of the artist Elizabeth Valdez

The man, the myth, the mittens

He's the meme that keeps on meme-ing, without even trying! During the 2021 presidential inauguration, Senator Bernie Sanders once again dominated media attention with his serious demeanor and adorable mittens. Through the unequivocal magic of social media, Bernie mitten memes flooded timelines and feeds all over the world.

Crochet artist, Tobey King, was the first to capture this memorable meme in the form of a doll, which also gained beloved attention from Bernie fans far and wide. King was able to bid her piece on eBay for over \$20,000, opting to donate 100% of the proceeds to Meals on Wheels. eBay decided to match the bid, calculating to over a whopping \$40,000 donation to the charity.

Artist, Lizzy Valdez, has been crocheting for about 8 years. She enjoys utilizing different patterns in the amigurumi crochet style. Her creations range from animated characters, pop culture icons, and adorable animals. Valdez has also been fond of Sanders and his work over the years, which made her decision to replicate King's original piece a no-brainer. Valdez's creations have gained tremendous attention on her social media pages from her friends and family. Though she does not currently sell her art work online, she has been open to commissioning pieces for special occasions. When Valdez is not crocheting, she enjoys spending time with her husband and 3-year-old son. She also enjoys playing video games and socializing with her friends online.

You can find more of Valdez's art work on her Instagram page: [@itsknotknittingwithliz](#)